

Hafa Adai!

Torres: Priorities are deficit, employees, 100% pension for retirees. **PAGE 2**
80% of NMC employees vaccinated. **PAGE 3**

75¢

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CNMI to resume J&J vaccination

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

As the CNMI advances to a Level 1 for low risk of COVID-19 on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's travel health notice list, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther Muña said CHCC will resume the use of the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine.

» **'CNMI advances to Level 1 for low risk'**
» **CHCC releases updated traveler protocols**

Muña confirmed that CHCC will resume the Janssen vaccine following recommendations from CDC and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to lift the pause on the single-dose vaccine.

According to CDC and FDA, they have determined that use of the Janssen COVID-19 vaccine should be resumed in the United States; FDA and CDC have confidence that this vaccine is safe and effective in preventing COVID-19; the FDA has determined that the available

See J&J on Page 4

Ex-casino employee stuck on Saipan turns to GoFundMe

By JOSHUA SANTOS
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REPORTER

Edmond Chow, a former gam-

ing table employee at the casino of Imperial Pacific Resort, has been jobless and stuck on Saipan since the casino shut

down in March last year. In an interview last Saturday at See EX-CASINO on Page 4



JOSHUA SANTOS
Edmond Chow sits down for an interview with Saipan Tribune at Cha Cafe and Bistro last Saturday.

AT A GLANCE

As of 7pm, April 27, 2021

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	18,864
Fully Vaccinated:	15,638
Moderna	
Initiated:	2,903
Fully Vaccinated:	2,249
Janssen	
Fully vaccinated:	49

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	7,923	16	7,939
Recovered	7,722	13	7,735
Active	52	16	68
Deaths	136	0	136
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			152,686

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	164	0	164
Traced via Travel Screening	128	0	128
Traced via Community Screening	36	0	36
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			26,131*
Days since last community transmission			41

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

IPI's 105 Mongolian workers to leave on May 1

» **IPI finalizing payment plan for foreign workers who already left**
» **IPI current with payroll for active employees**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Approximately 105 Mongolian construction workers of the Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC are scheduled to

leave the CNMI this Saturday, May 1, according to IPI Human Resources director Redie Dela Cruz.

At the Commonwealth Casino Commission board's month-

See IPI on Page 4

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

A file photo of the Imperial Pacific Resort/Casino in western Garapan. The casino has been closed since March 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic.



INSIDE

LOCAL

Mount Carmel School's Theatre Club returns to William Shakespeare with an adaption of his classic comedy, "As You Like It."

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BUSINESS

2D To Go and 2D Canvass is set to open on May 1 in San Jose beside Atkins Kroll.

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NATION

The U.S. will begin sharing its entire stock of Astra-Zeneca COVID-19 vaccines with the world once it clears federal safety reviews.

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Local

ON \$515M ARPA SPENDING PLAN

Torres: Priorities are deficit, employees, 100% pension for retirees

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said on Friday with the \$515 million allocated to the CNMI under the American Rescue Plan Act, some of the priorities are to take care of the government's deficit, no more furloughed employees, pay retirees 100% of their pension benefits, and have a universal garbage collection and special projects for the three islands.

Speaking at a radio news briefing, Torres said on priorities for the discretionary funds under ARPA, they definitely want to address the deficit and make sure that funds being spent are done accordingly.

"We want to make sure that we are able to cover and pay as much as we can in our deficit," he pointed out.

Torres disclosed that he re-

cently met with House Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) and Senate President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian), and then also last Thursday with the Governor's Economic Council advisers, to give a layout on the four categories that they need to spend the money.

» Governor also mentions work on tourism, special projects for 3 islands, universal garbage collection

"We want to be sure that it falls within those categories and we'll be sending our expenditure plan when it's ready," Torres said.

He said they are waiting for the guidelines from the U.S. Treasury as well.

The governor said first and foremost, they want to make sure that they have plans for the tourism market, work with the Marianas Visitors Authority, and also, through the Governor's Economic Council Advisors.

He said they are also looking into universal garbage collection.

Torres said they want to continue to maintain payment of the 25% pension benefits to the retirees, making their pension 100%.

He assured that the employees are back at full hours and there will be no more furloughs.

The governor said with the ARPA funding, this will also give the municipalities the op-

portunity to get their priorities and work on that.

He said they send some infrastructure requests to the mayors.

"There's a lot of moving factors into the expenditure plan," Torres said.

He shared that they will be working with the mayors to work on special projects.

The governor said for ex-

ample, they would like to give some funding to Rota to promote farming as they have excellent farming opportunities.

He said he talked with the Rota mayor regarding that project.

For Tinian, Torres said he spoke with the island's mayor and leadership on embracing and expanding the cattle ranch.

For Saipan and the Northern

Islands, the governor said, the focus is on fishing.

"So, in this way, they will give each island to showcase, you know, the love of our land and our waters. And I hope this will also give opportunity for the youth to have something within their islands—opportunity," Torres said.

The governor said those
See RETIREES on Page 4

MVA office lease expiring Friday

By **JOSHUA SANTOS**
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REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority's current office space, along with the land that Latte Built Fitness and a portion of Atkins-Kroll Toyota sits atop of, are part of an expiring long-term lease between the Pangelinan estate and Saipan Professional Corp. that expires this Friday, April 27. The original lease was arranged more than 30 to 40 years ago, and today the land has 12 joint tenants in common. Attorney Robert T. Torres of the Robert T. Tor-

res Law Group, speaking on behalf of Marilyn P. Jones, is currently working on obtaining a special power of attorney that would allow businesses and government agencies like MVA to negotiate with two representatives from the Pangelinan estate instead of all 12.

Being one of the main items on the agenda during the MVA special board of directors meeting yesterday, April 27, included the state of the expiring office space lease

» Legal discussions on land and renegotiation of lease underway

and MVA's operations resulted in multiple motions from the board. The MVA board motioned to cancel RFP-21-2027-2, a request for proposal filed as MVA continued its search for a permanent office space, passed a motion for MVA to remain and continue operations at its current location, and

passed a motion ensuring that MVA will do what is needed to set up an escrow account to pay the rent for the office space once a renewal of the lease is put together.

It was stated during the

board meeting that a search for a permanent office space arrangement has been a long-term endeavor of MVA, and is not new business.

Once Torres obtains the special power of attorney, he and the two representatives of the Pangelinan estate will first negotiate a temporary holdover agreement with MVA and will soon after work to renew MVA's lease altogether. During the board meeting, Torres stated that he had advised his clients that it was in their best interest to keep MVA as a client and at its current location.

Torres is still in the progress of obtaining the special power of attorney.



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80% of NMC employees vaccinated

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

Approximately 75% to 80% of the Northern Marianas College's employees have been

vaccinated with the COVID-19 vaccine.

According to NMC's Office of Institutional Advancement program coordinator Miguel Dandan, 75% to 80% of the

NMC's employees have been vaccinated. This includes the staff, administrative, and instructors.

It was not immediately learned if the remaining 20% have yet to receive the vaccine due to medical conditions or religious beliefs or is currently waiting on their vaccination date.

Since the CNMI received the first batch of Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in December 2020, NMC has been campaigning for its students to get vaccinated as well. This campaign includes hosting virtual sessions for students and teachers who have questions about the vaccine, what to expect with the vaccines, and encouraging its students to get vaccinated.

"The COVID-19 vaccine is now available for individuals 16 years and over on Saipan [and] 18 years and older for Rota and Tinian. We strongly urge you, for your safety, as well as your family's and our community's safety and well-being, to vaccinate as soon as possible," said NMC in its recent post on their vaccine campaign.

In a previous interview, NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico said he wanted everyone to be vaccinated while making sure they do it in the "right way."

Eliptico said he trusts the science and those who have been given the responsibility of determining if the vaccine is safe to distribute.

"I trust their judgment and I trust the science, so I will be happy, and I look forward to being vaccinated when the rest of my campus community, teachers, students, and support staff are vaccinated... I'll be the first one if possible," said Eliptico.

Saipan Tribune also reached out to Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada to see where PSS is with their employees and teachers being vaccinated but as of press time, Ada has yet to respond.

Sen. Santos explains why Rota Legislative Delegation yet to organize

By FERGIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Sen. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota) set the record straight Monday as to why until now the Rota Legislative Delegation has yet to organize itself.

Santos told Saipan Tribune that the delegation first attempted to organize itself last Feb. 17 when an informal meeting was conducted to decide who would be the officers.

Santos said Sen. Paul A. Manglona (Ind-Rota) informed the members that he had no interest in the leadership position and urged her, Sen. Victor B. Hocog (R-Rota), and Rep. Donald Manglona (Ind-Rota) to decide amongst themselves who the officers would be.

She said when the floor was opened for nomination, no member spoke until Hocog nominated her to lead the delegation.

Santos said Sen. Manglona then stated that he and Rep.

Manglona are also interested in the position.

Santos said since the delegation was unable to reach a consensus as to who would hold the leadership position, she requested that the informal meeting be adjourned to allow the members more time to contemplate the matter and meet again to discuss the matter the following week.



Santos

She, however, proposed that she and Rep. Manglona share the chairmanship.

"I even went as far as offering him the first year of the chairmanship to show good faith to a new and fruitful beginning," Santos said.

The senator said prior to any organizational session, a speaker/president pro tem must be chosen to official call and conduct an organizational session.

Santos said since then she made several inquiries to Rep. Manglona as to the status of her proposal and the delega-

tion organization.

She said Rep. Manglona stated that he had to first consult with Sen. Manglona before a decision can be rendered.

She said the last information that she received from Rep. Manglona was that he is no longer vying to be the chairman of the delegation and is now supporting Sen. Manglona.

Santos said Rep. Manglona indicated that Sen. Manglona would like to be the chairman for the first 10 months and then she would assume the chairmanship for the remaining 10 months.

Santos said in response to Rep. Manglona's counterproposal, she informed him that she had offered that compromised proposal when all four delegation members were present during their first informal meeting last February.

She said she recommended that any counterproposals should be offered and discussed in the same manner.

See SANTOS on Next Page

Auto-motorcycle crash leaves man with lacerated knee

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

A man walked away with only a laceration to his knee after an auto-motorcycle incident in front of the Triple J's Payless SuperFresh & Truckload store in Susupe last April 21, according to Department of Public Safety public information officer Dre Pangelinan.

According to Pangelinan, the man who sustained only a laceration to his knee was involved in an auto-motorcycle crash last Friday in front of Payless. He was the operator of the motorcycle.

Pangelinan said the operator

of the other vehicle was cited for failing to yield to the vehicle—the motorcycle in this case—traveling through the highway when turning.

"One thing that we do want to remind motorists drivers and even cyclists is [to] remember when you're turning, you have to look both ways and then on top of looking both ways, even if you are going in a straight direction, you have to look and make sure that there is no oncoming vehicle or cyclists," said Pangelinan.

Pangelinan emphasized that drivers should make sure and double check before crossing for any pedestrian or cyclist—a

motorcycle or a bicycle.

Luckily, both the motorcycle and automobile operators did not sustain any serious injuries, only a laceration on the knee of the motorcyclist.

Another automobile incident happened around 8pm last April 25 in Papago. Videos on social media showed DPS directing traffic while a sedan with damage on the driver's side was getting towed away.

As of press time, Pangelinan did not have further information on this incident. It was not immediately learned how many people were involved, how many cars were involved, or if there were any fatalities.

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J&J

From Page 1

data shows that the vaccine's known and potential benefits outweigh its known and potential risks in individuals 18 years of age and older.

CDC and FDA said at this time, the available data suggest that the chance of thrombosis-thrombocytopenia syndrome— a condition that causes low blood clots and low platelets— occurring is very low, but they will continue to investigate this risk.

The pause was recommended earlier this month after reports of six cases of a rare and severe type of blood clot in individuals following administration of the Janssen vaccine.

According to Muña, they will resume the use of the vaccine and will make sure that everything is okay after the shot. Muña did not further comment on the issue and recommended to wait for a press release.

As of press time, there was no statements or press releases from CHCC, the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, or the Torres administration.

CNMI moves to Level 1

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently lowered the CNMI to Level 1 category on its Travel Health Notice list for low risk of COVID-19.

To achieve Level 1, destinations must have less than 10 cases over the past 28 days.

According to CDC, the primary criteria for destinations with a population of 200,000 or less are:

■ COVID-19 case counts (cumulative new cases over the past 28 days)

■ Continuous review of new case trend data over the past 28 days

According to CHCC's public

information officer Lee Tenorio, CHCC attributes the upgrade in category to the efforts of the residents of the CNMI. As of April 26, 2021, the CNMI has fully vaccinated 17,652 persons which represents 46.3% of the eligible population.

Additionally, CHCC has updated its traveler protocols entering the CNMI last April 27. These are the following:

Group A: Travelers fully vaccinated in the CNMI

■ Arrival Procedures:

□ Will be transported to the quarantine facility and be tested on arrival

□ CHCC staff will verify vaccination status

□ Home and lodging will be inspected by CHCC staff and must pass for approval; all eligible household/lodging members must be fully vaccinated

■ Quarantine Procedures:

□ If home/lodging inspection passes, monitoring and quarantine are not required (allowed to move freely around the CNMI)

□ Will be tested on 5th day

□ Travelers must practice the 3 W's— wear a mask, wash your hands, and watch your distance

Group B1: Critical essential workers approved by the CNMI health official

■ Arrival Procedures:

□ Will be transported to the quarantine facility and be tested on arrival

□ CHCC staff will verify vaccination, if Critical Essential worker is vaccinated, if applicable must pass for approval; all eligible household/lodging members must be fully vaccinated

■ Quarantine Procedures:

□ Home/Lodging Self-Quarantine with limited movement

□ Will be tested on 5th day

□ 5-day monitoring is required

Group B2: Essential workers approved by the CNMI health official who have proof of vaccination

■ Arrival Procedures:

□ Will be transported to the Quarantine Facility and be tested on Arrival

□ Provide proof of vaccination to be verified by CHCC staff

□ Home and lodging will be inspected by CHCC staff and must pass for approval; all eligible household/lodging members must be fully vaccinated

■ Quarantine Procedures:

□ Home/Lodging Self-Quarantine with limited movement

□ Will be tested on 5th day

□ 5-day monitoring is required

Group B3: Essential workers that are approved by the CNMI health official who are not vaccinated or do not have proof of vaccination

■ Arrival Procedures:

□ Will be transported to the quarantine facility and be tested on arrival

■ Quarantine Procedures:

□ 5-day mandatory quarantine at the designated government quarantine facility

□ Will be tested on 5th day

□ Modified transportation to and from place of work

Group C: Travelers from a Level 1 jurisdiction according to CDC COVID-19 travel

recommendations, who did not layover in a Level 2 or higher jurisdiction and who have proof of their official vaccination record.

■ Arrival Procedures:

□ Will be transported to the quarantine facility and be tested on arrival

□ Proof of vaccination to be veri-

fied by CHCC staff

□ Home or lodging will be inspected by CHCC staff and must pass for approval; all eligible household/lodging members must be fully vaccinated

■ Quarantine Procedures:

□ Home/Lodging Self-Quarantine

□ Will be tested on 5th day

□ 5-day monitoring is required

IPI

From Page 1

ly meeting last Thursday, Dela Cruz, who joined the meeting through Zoom, also disclosed that they are now finalizing a payment plan to pay severance benefits to those foreign workers who had already left the CNMI.

IPI said no construction work at the Imperial Pacific Resort project in Garapan is ongoing because of the U.S. District Court for the NMI's work stoppage order.

In response to CCC commissioner Rafael Demapan's question about the status of the remaining IPI's foreign workers, Dela Cruz said 105 employees from the Mongolian team remained on island.

The HR director said these Mongolian workers, who entered the CNMI with H2-B work visas, are confirmed leaving the CNMI this Saturday through Asiana Airlines.

"The tickets have been purchased," she said.

Dela Cruz said there are a few teams that have some individuals remain on island such as about 11 Taiwanese and some Turkish.

She said she does not know what the approximate number of Turkish.

The director said the Taiwanese refused to leave and that she does not know the situation of the Turkish.

On status of employees' payroll, Dela Cruz said they are talking about active employees who are working during IPI's closure and that IPI is up to date with this payroll distribution.

"There are some exception in that there were some hours that are being audited," she said, adding that the audit is going through a final review.

The director said once a decision is made, then most likely those hours will get paid out if not the following day, last Friday, or in the next payout.

On the status of the unpaid sever-

Group D: Travelers who do not qualify for Group A, B1, B2, B3, or C

■ Arrival Procedures:

□ Will be transported to the quarantine facility and be tested on arrival

■ Quarantine Procedures:

□ Standard quarantine at designated government quarantine facility

□ Will be tested on 5th day

ance pay for employees who are separated or off island, Dela Cruz said she is going to break this down into several segments.

"We're going to talk about separated employees, we're going to talk about the benefits payout," she said.

Dela Cruz said the benefits payout will include severance if it's applicable pursuant to the employment contracts.

"The paid time off, unused hours, and reimbursements such as outbound subsistence, airfare, and relocation costs, if it's applicable pursuant to the employment contracts," she said.

The director said she will report that as of July 2020, IPI has not been able to pay out those benefits to separated employees due to lack of funding.

She said because the casino is closed as of March 2020, they have not generated any income and so funding is very limited.

As to board chair Edward C. DeLeon Guerrero's question as to when IPI will be able to make those payments, Dela Cruz said they are working on a plan for IPI to start making small installment payments.

"We won't be able to pay out everything at one time. So we have to come up with a plan to break it down to pay it in installments, little by little whatever we can," she said.

The director said the plan is currently being written for the IPI board's consideration.

Dela Cruz said the plan is tied in with IPI's request submitted to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres for a five-year extension on payments issue, as well as tied with the U.S. Labor's lawsuit matter.

She said they are now finalizing the proposed payment plan to include with the five-year extension request.

The director said once the proposed payment plan is given a green light from the IPI board, she will share that to CCC.

"I just don't know what the timeframe will be at this point," she added.

to get their 100% pension benefits.

"I can't emphasize how critical our retirees for us to protect them. Even now, the whole last year, we had no tourism and yet, the administration was able to continue to give our retirees the 25% additional from the government, making their pension at 100%," he added.

with all four members' schedule and without a designated chairperson pro tem to officially call and conduct an organizational session.

Santos reiterated her recommendation that the delegation meet first prior to the formal organization session to discuss and mutually agree to the roles each member would assume to decide on a chairperson pro tem.

She requested all delegation members to attend an informal meeting for May 3 at 10am in the Senate's chamber.

EX-CASINO

From Page 1

Cha Café and Bistro, Chow detailed his struggles, how he created a GoFundMe account to survive, and his reasons for staying on Saipan. Chow, who first arrived in Saipan on a CW visa in 2017, has until September this year to make ends meet before his visa expires.

Before flying to Saipan to work for the casino in 2017, Chow recalled his past jobs as a watch salesman in malls in Malaysia and as a gaming table employee aboard tourist boats and inside Malaysian casinos. Now, Chow is without a job, has little to no savings, and has become a regular at Saipan's many food distribution sites every weekend.

The casino cut employee hours last year in February, and ultimately suspended operations a month later. Since then, Chow has been struggling to take care of himself and his mother, who is still in Malaysia. He further explained that his mother was frequently in and out of the hospital to treat stones in her back and said that her medical bills amounted to \$800 every month.

When asked about what was stopping him from flying home and the purpose of his GoFundMe, Chow made it clear that his main priority was to take care of his mother before anything else.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

File photo of Edmond Chow, second from right to left, lined up with others outside of Majesty Chinese Restaurant in Garapan for Full Belly, Full Hearts' food distribution last November. With mounting costs of living for him and his mom, Full Belly, Full Hearts volunteers put together a GoFundMe page for Chow.

"It's not about why I can't go home. I did GoFundMe hoping that people will help me because of problems back home. And [even] if I go home, what's after? I have no job when I go home. Now, my situation is very hard. My mom is very sick, and I have no more money [to give]," said Chow.

Chow's GoFundMe page was created with the help of volunteers from Full Belly, Full Hearts, who distributes food every Sunday at Majesty Chinese Restaurant in Garapan. Chow is a regular at their food distributions. "I did not know of [GoFundMe] before, but they helped me set it up," said Chow. The funds donated to the page will be directed to Chow's personal savings account at

First Hawaiian Bank.

Chow is one of several workers on a CW visa who were formerly employed by the casino and are still refusing to go home before they are fully paid and/or reemployed. "My visa's not yet expired, so [I] can still stay here. I hope the casino will reopen. They say they will, but until now they haven't," he said. Chow thanks those that have already donated and wants people that are considering donating to know his story and think of his mother and father. As of writing, the GoFundMe has raised \$200 of its \$5,000 goal. The GoFundMe link can be found at <https://gofund.me/28d0677b> and Chow can be reached directly at <https://www.facebook.com/chow.edmund.3>.

RETIREES

From Page 2

are some of the projects that they're looking at but that at the end of the day, they want to pay the deficit, protect government employees, and make sure that the retirees continue

SANTOS

From Page 3

ner, with all four delegation members present.

Santos said Rep. Manglona told her that he is ready for a meeting after May 11 since he has budget hearings on Rota and Tinian.

She said to her surprise, she was informed that an organizational session had been scheduled for May 6 without even verifying and coordinating

GCA student tops Mathleague 1st qualifier

Grace Christian Academy 4th grade student Hans Gabriel Ordas topped the 4th grade level and was also the overall winner from all the CNMI 4th to 8th graders who competed in Mathleague first online qualifying round competition last March. He will compete again in the second qualifying round this April.

Mathleague is one of the largest network of local and state math competitions at the elementary, middle, and high

school levels in the United States and abroad. Mathleague.org runs more than 400 contests globally and reaches over 30,000 students each year.

Ordas, who has been the top winner in other island-wide Math competitions in the past school years, said that he was excited to be a part of the Mathleague competition for the first time. "To be honest, the questions were pretty hard. I had no idea what type of questions would come out, so

yeah, I was really nervous, and excited too at the same time. I'm so glad that, at the end of the day, I got to qualify somehow. The experience taught me a lot and it would surely help me prepare for the next round," he said as he shared his experience in joining the competition.

In all the competitions that he joined, he always mentioned the he did his best and acknowledged God who did the rest. "That's what my parents always tells me, and it works all the time," he added. He is thankful for his parents who were very happy for

him. His parents said that he loves Math and likes answering Math problems even at a young age. "We didn't expect him to qualify in the Mathleague for the first try. Just to experience the competition and learn from it would have been enough for us as parents. To be able to qualify, which he did, is a bonus and that makes us so proud of him," they added.

The GCA family is always proud of the students' accomplishments and very grateful to all the parents in supporting their child's academic and extracurricular activities. **(GCA)**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Grace Christian Academy 4th grade student Hans Gabriel Ordas has his picture taken inside GCA Navy Hill Campus.

Power interruption scheduled for Kagman, Papago

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the general public that there will be a scheduled power service interruption on Saturday, May 1, 2021, from 8:30am to 12:30pm for customers in Kagman and Papago. The purpose of the scheduled power interruption is for CUC to temporarily shut-off power in order for CUC linemen to safely replace a rotted wooden primary pole to a concrete pole near the Kagman Mobil Gas Station. See additional information below:

Saturday, May 1, 2021- 8:30am-9am (Momentary Outage)

■ Outage Type: Sectionalized Momentary Interruption on the Feeder 4 Circuit

■ Project Location: Near the Kagman Mobil Gas Station

■ Power Service Area(s) Affected: Customers in Isa Drive, Papago (Fresco Pl., Sachet Ln., Dagga Pl., Pengua Pl., Maie Ln., Palm Tree Pl., Chetnot Pl., Sosugi Dr., Leel Ln., Papago Dr., Tulip Pl., Pina Dr., Ahgaga Dr., & Amot Ln.), Entire Kagman Area (to include the Kagman Mobil Gas Station)

■ Traffic Light(s) Affected: Kagman Traffic Light

■ Water Well(s) Affected: Kagman Booster I & II, KG-3,4,6-15,21-23,131, KG-18 & 20 (Agricultural Well)

■ Water Service Area(s) Affected: Entire Kagman, San Vicente, Upper Dandan and Obyan Areas

■ Wastewater Lift Station Affected: None

Saturday, May 1, 2021- 8:30am-12:30pm

■ Outage Type: Sectionalized Momentary Interruption on the Feeder 4 Circuit

■ Project Location: Near the Kagman Mobil Gas Station

■ Power Service Area(s) Affected: Entire Kagman Area (to include the Kagman Tire Shop and Mobil Gas Station)

■ Traffic Light(s) Affected: Kagman Traffic Light

■ Water Well(s) Affected: Kagman Booster I & II, KG-3,4,6-15,21-23,131, KG-18 & 20 (Agricultural Well)

■ Water Service Area(s) Affected: Entire Kagman, San Vicente, Upper Dandan and Obyan Areas

■ Wastewater Lift Station Affected: None

CUC continues to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Hotline (236-4333) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilities-Corporation/>). **(CUC)**

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Road closed across Mobil Kagman on May 1

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the general public that there will be a temporary road closure on Saturday, May 1, 2021, from 8:30am to 12:30pm for the eastbound lane across the Mobil Kagman gas station. CUC's operators will be replacing a rotted wooden primary pole to a concrete pole located across the Mobil Kagman gas station. The roadway will re-open for use soon after the installation.

For the safety of the men and women working at the site, motorists are advised to proceed with caution and/or take alternative routes when traveling through the area.

CUC continues to work dili-

gently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers. For more information, contact the CUC Hotline (236-4333) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilities-Corporation/>). **(CUC)**

5.0-magnitude earthquake shudders Saipan

At 1:40pm yesterday, a report of a 5.0-magnitude earthquake occurred 77 KM South-Southwest of San Jose Village, Northern Mariana Islands. Currently, there are no warnings or advisories issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center.

For more information, please contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 670-237-8000. **(PR)**

Mother's day BRUNCH

Sunday, May 9, 2021
11am to 2pm

\$30 Adult / \$15 Child (ages 4 to 11)

Prime Rib, Roast Beef, Assorted Sashimi and more
With free flow of Sparkling Wine, Beer, Red & White Wine

World cafe
RESTAURANT

LUNCH PROMOTION

Thursday to Sunday Theme Lunch Buffet

Thursday to Saturday = \$19.99 adult / \$9.99 Child (ages 4 to 11)
Sunday Brunch = \$30.00 adult / \$15.00 Child (ages 4 to 11)

- Teppanyaki Theme Lunch for Thursday
 - Asian Theme Lunch for Friday
 - Tex Mex Theme Lunch for Saturday
 - International Theme Brunch for Sunday

MAI
teppanyaki

Open on Thursdays to Saturdays from 6pm to 9pm

FIESTA
Resort & SPA
SAIPAN
A TanHoldings Company

FOR RESERVATIONS PLEASE CALL 234-6414

For everyone's safety, wearing of facemask will be required and social distancing will be practiced.

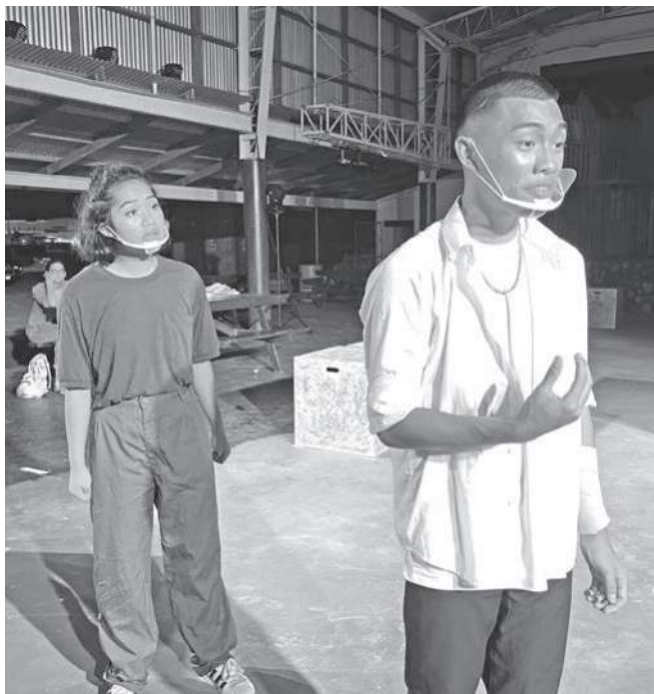
MCS Theatre Club Knights take stage for 'As You Like It'

As part of the ongoing celebration of its 25th anniversary, Mount Carmel School's Theatre Club returns to William Shakespeare with an adaption of his classic comedy, "As You Like It." Taking on the challenge of staging a Shakespeare show are two club veterans, Kina Dela Cruz and Larry Cruz, who play the lead roles of Rosalind and Orlando, respectively.

Dela Cruz is no stranger to the stage, having acted in several productions, including the lead role of Tasi in the Theatre Club's 2019 production of "Tasi." Despite all that experience, though, her current role has pushed her to grow as an actor. In particular, she is playing a character who disguises herself as a man in order to learn the true intentions of a potential suitor. "It has been a challenge to switch from playing the girl character to the manly character." She added, "I have had to learn how to change my body movements and the way I speak."

Cruz is also no stranger to the club, having acted in several productions and recently directing one of the stories in the club's award-winning "We Drank Our Tears" series. Still, he too struggled with his role. As he put it, "In real life, I am the oldest sibling, but my character is the youngest sibling, so adjusting to that different mindset was challenging."

Their challenges on stage, though, have been worth it. In particular, they appreciate the close relationships they have forged with fellow cast and crew members. As Dela Cruz put it, "I love how close we all became." Likewise, Cruz said,



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Kina Dela Cruz, left, and Larry Cruz play the lead roles of Rosalind and Orlando, respectively in the Mount Carmel School Theatre Club adaptation of William Shakespeare's classic comedy, "As You Like It."

"They've become my family."

Those close relationships are one reason Dela Cruz and Cruz keep returning to the Theatre Club. Dela Cruz said, "Slowly, this club has become a part of me, and coming back to theatre for each production is like coming home."

» Kina Dela Cruz, Larry Cruz play lead roles

For Cruz, the family of the club has allowed him to feel comfortable in his own skin. "In Theatre Club, you can find yourself. It's a place that allows us to grow as individuals surrounded by people who understand and love you for who you are." He added, "Without theatre, I would still

be that closed-off, introverted guy with anxiety attacks. It's helped me grow in school and how I present myself."

"As You Like It" follows its heroine Rosalind as she flees persecution in her uncle's court, accompanied by her cousin Celia to find safety and, eventually, love, with Orlando in the Forest of Arden. In the forest, they encounter a variety of memorable characters, notably Jaques, who speaks many of Shakespeare's most famous speeches, including a monologue that begins with the Theatre Club's slogan, "All the world's a stage."

Launched in 1996, the MCS Theatre Club celebrates its 25th anniversary this year, commemorating over 50 theatrical and cinematic produc-

tions, including several Disney musicals, numerous Shakespeare plays, and a number of original productions. The club started this year's celebration in February with the sold-out premiere of the latest entry in its award-winning "We Drank Our Tears" series, the "Stories of Visitacion, Henry, and Dave" at American Memorial Park. The club will continue the celebration after "As You Like It" with a sequel ten years in the making, May's premiere of the feature film "Zero2Hero", a follow-up to 2011's cult hit, "Zero to Hero." Later this year, the club will continue the celebration with another feature film, "Isla", and the classic musical, "The Sound of Music."

"As You Like It" will be presented on the Mount Carmel School campus on April 30 and May 1 starting at 7pm each night. Tickets are \$25 for



Larry Cruz, right, plays Orlando opposite of Christian Guerrero, who plays his brother, Oliver, in the Mount Carmel School Theatre Club adaptation of William Shakespeare's classic comedy, "As You Like It."



Kina Dela Cruz, left, plays Rosalind opposite of Raven Driver, who plays her cousin, Celia, in the Mount Carmel School Theatre Club adaptation of William Shakespeare's classic comedy, "As You Like It."

front row premium seats and \$10 for general admission. Tickets can be purchased at Herman's Modern Bakery, Java Joe's Kagman Mobil, Naked Fish Bar & Grill, Puerto Rico Shell, TRIBE MARIANAS, and the school's Business Office. To comply with COVID-19 Mitigation Guidelines, tickets are limited and are available only on a first-come, first-served basis.

Funding for this production is provided by the CNMI CARES Relief Fund for Organizations and supported by the National Endowment for the Arts through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020. For more information, visit www.mountcarmelsaipan.com. (PR)

Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting
 Wednesday, May 5, 2021 5:00 PM
 Commonwealth Zoning Office, 2nd Fl. Joeten Dandan Bldg.
 Tel: 234-9661/2 • Fax: 234-9666
www.cnmizoning.com

AGENDA

- A. Preliminary Matters**
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of 04/07/2021 Zoning Board Meeting minutes and 04/14/2021 Special Board Meeting minutes
 5. Public Comments (not for items to be discussed in item B. Public Hearings)
- B. Public Hearings**
 1. **Conditional Use Application #2020-6591** – Fritz Pacific is proposing to occupy the ground floor of a pre-existing two-storey commercial building structure measuring 68' (L) x 47'9" (W) x 9'11" (H) with a total floor area of 3,257.2 Sq. ft. for its Restaurant General Use proposal. This use is classified as "Restaurant General" and is permitted in the district as a condition use. This site is located on Lot No. 003 H 03 in the village of Susupe. This area is zoned as Village Residential.
- C. New Business**
 1. Operations Reports (Permitting & Enforcement)
- D. Miscellaneous**
 1. Next Meeting
 2. Administrator's Updates
- E. Adjournment**

In an effort to provide public access to this meeting during this pandemic, the Commonwealth Zoning Board will host this meeting via:

Zoom Video Communications
 Meeting Link: <https://zoom.us/j/6853007492>
 Meeting Code: 685 300 7492

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
 for
Fritz Pacific

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board Public Hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Fritz Pacific is proposing to occupy the ground floor of a pre-existing two-storey commercial building structure measuring 68' (L) x 47'9" (W) x 9'11" (H) with a total floor area of 3,257.2 Sq. ft. for its Restaurant General Use proposal. This use is classified as "Restaurant General" and is permitted in the district as a conditional use. This site is located on Lot No. 003 H 03 in the village of Susupe. This area is zoned as Village Residential.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: May 5, 2021
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Commonwealth Zoning Office, 2nd Fl. Joeten Dandan Bldg.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, May 4, 2021. Please send written comments via e-mail to zoningboard@cnmizoning.com, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Amended Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Chairwoman

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
 Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
 2nd Floor Arrival Bldg.
 P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
 Phone: (1-670) 237-6500/1 • Fax: (1-670) 234-5962
 E-mail Address: cpa.admin@ptic.com •
 Website: www.cnmiports.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 02-2021

Opening date: April 15, 2021 Closing date: May 05, 2021

Positions: (1) Grants Coordinator-Saipan
 (1) Electrician-Saipan
 (1) Ports Police Officer I-Saipan
 (1) General Maintenance II-Rota Seaport

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the **CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport**. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than **5:00 P.M. on Wednesday, May 05, 2021**.

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form from Tuesday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at lorna.tenorio@cnmiports.com or by phone at (670)237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

JKPL gets \$211K ARPA grant

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library-CNMI State Library received exciting news last April 10 of the official award notification of \$211,256 from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for the FY 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant Award.

According to the American Library Association's analysis of the act and related legislation, ARPA funding will maintain and enhance library services such as expanding digital connectivity, establishing mobile digital labs, enhancing job-seeking programs, and improving training/technical support for libraries. Each state will receive an allotment of funds based on their population, with a base amount of \$2 million for states, Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico. The base allotment for other territories is \$200,000.00.1 Funding was made possible by the provisions of the American Rescue Plan Act (Public Law 117-2) and the IMLS authorization statute (20 U.S.C. § 9101 et seq.). According to IMLS, "To achieve the American Rescue Plan Act's purposes with respect to Grants to States, this funding is to be used by Sept. 30, 2022, in helping communities respond directly and immediately to the pandemic, as well as to related economic and community needs through equitable approaches. Spending priorities are as follows:

First, to support digital inclusion efforts to enable libraries to reach residents such as through internet hotspots, accessible Wi-Fi, and digital content and related resources, particularly in support of education, health, and workforce

development needs.

The following types of data, among others, can inform efforts to reach underserved populations: Poverty/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Unemployment Broadband availability; 1 <https://www.oif.ala.org/oif/?p=25488>

Second, to provide rapid emergency relief to libraries across the country, allowing them to safely respond to the pandemic and implement public health protocols;

Third, to support library services that meet the needs of communities throughout the U.S., including costs such as personnel, technology, training, materials, supplies, equipment, and associated indirect costs."

Library director Erlinda C. Naputi shared, "During the pandemic, libraries have been going above and beyond to adapt to our changing world by expanding their resources and continuing to meet the needs of our community. Whether people visit in person or virtually, libraries offer opportunities for everyone to explore new worlds and become their best selves through access to technology, multimedia content and educational programs.

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 funding will help provide much needed funding support to our Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Bookmobile, Fernando M. Benavente Memorial Library, Antonio C. Atalig Memorial Library (Rota), and our Tinian Public Library with much needed programs and services for our underserved communities especially during this pandemic."



Naputi

"We humbly thank the Institute of Museum and Library Services for awarding the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library-CNMI State Library \$211,256.00 funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021. This fund-

ing will help ensure that our patrons from all across the CNMI—Saipan, Tinian, and Rota—have the opportunity to access virtual learning resources and technology to search for employment, learn valuable skills, and so much more!"

This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services LS-250249-OLS-21 FY 2021 American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant award.

The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's libraries and museums. We advance, support, and empower America's museums, libraries, and related organizations through grantmaking, research, and policy development. Our vision is a nation where museums and libraries work together to transform the lives of individuals and communities. To learn more, visit www.imls.gov and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

For the latest library news and events, visit our website www.cnmlib.org and our social media on facebook and Instagram @joetenkiyupubliclibrary for the latest updates. Our library hours of operation are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 10:30am to 6pm; Friday from 1:30pm to 7pm; Saturday from 9:30am to 4pm. (**JKPL**)

MCS early bird deadline on May 1

Mount Carmel School reminds interested families that the deadline for the Early Bird Special is scheduled for May 1, 2021.

The Early Bird Special is an opportunity for parents to avail of major registration and tuition discounts for the upcoming school year. The annual early bird registration discount is as follows: For grades K4 - K5 registration is \$50 per student (normally \$100). For students in grades first through 12th, the registration fee is \$100 per stu-

dent (normally \$400).

Families with two children can avail of a \$600 tuition discount for the second child, families with three children can avail of a \$1,000 tuition discount for the third child, and families with four children can avail of a \$1,500 tuition discount for the fourth child.

To learn more about enrolling at Mount Carmel School for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year, call 234-6184 or visit www.mountcarmelsaipan.com. (**MCS**)

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP21-CHCC/ELC-001

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MAY 4TH, 2021 TIME: 4:30PM (CHST)

“COMMUNITY DISEASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (CDMS)”

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORAZON P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

SAIPAN HIGHER EDUCATION FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Office of the Mayor
Municipality of Saipan

NOTICE OF REGULAR
SHEFA BOARD MEETING

In accordance with 1 CMC § 9901 et seq., as amended, the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance (SHEFA) Board is hereby giving notice of its regular board meeting, to be held on April 28th, 2021 at 9:30 a.m., Office of SHEFA conference room, 2nd Floor, CTC Building, Oleai, Beach Road, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes from March 25th, 2021

II. Public Comment (s)

III. Committee Reports

- a. Committee on Awards
- b. Committee on Appeal/Deferments/Forbearance
- c. Committee on Policy and Procedures
- d. Committee on Program and Development
- e. Committee of Fiscal, Legislative and Community Affairs

IV. Administrator's Report

V. Chairman's Report

VI. Old Business

1. Spring 2021 application status

VII. New Business

1. Election of officers
2. SNILD House Local Bill No. 22-7
3. Loan collections/repayment

VIII. Executive Session

IX. Miscellaneous Matters

X. Next Meeting

XI. Adjournment

/s/ Francisco D. Cabrera,
Interim Chairman, Board of SHEFA Directors

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-21-022

Installation of Primary Screen

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Installation of Primary Screen in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The intent of the contract is for the Contractor to provide all labor, equipment, supplies and materials necessary to complete the scope of work which consists of; the installation of a primary screen (OFCL), foundations, sewer piping, sewer valves and valve box, water service, electrical service, water booster pump, basket strainers, and rehabilitation and modification of existing improvements, along with other miscellaneous features, for one unit at Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The work shall be completed with minimal disruption to the daily operation of the Sadog Tasi WWTP. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 180 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded through Saipan Local Law 20-19.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **April 21, 2021 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies of the bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-21-022, Installation of Primary Screen” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 13, 2021, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A Bid Guarantee of not less than fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

A **Payment Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent and a **Performance Bond** of one hundred (100%) of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on April 27, 2021** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Westen Knudsen, CUC Water/Wastewater Engineer via email westen.knudsen@cucgov.org and to Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Senior Administrative Technician - marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM GILMORE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES

CUC-RAESP-21-024

A&E Design Services for the Dandan Water Tank Replacement Project, Kagman Water Tank Replacement Project, and the Tinian Water Tank Replacement Project

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) in coordination with the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified Architectural and Engineering (A&E) firms for the Design Services of the following projects: Dandan Water Tank Replacement Project, Kagman Water Tank Replacement Project, and the Tinian Water Tank Replacement in Saipan and Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from NMHC & HUD.

Prospective Proposers for this project must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The RAESP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Proposal and One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Cost Proposal in a separate envelope must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-RAESP-21-024, A&E Design Services for Dandan Water Tank Replacement Project, Kagman Water Tank Replacement Project, and the Tinian Water Tank Replacement Project”, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 20, 2021. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers who submit proposal determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from the proposal submitted by competing proposers.

All proposers are advised that CUC and NMHC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Consultant's preparation of a proposal under the contract. The RAESP does not commit CUC and NMHC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the statement of qualifications under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Consultants are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This RAESP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on April 29, 2021** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Mr. Larry Manacop, CUC Water/Wastewater, Acting Chief Engineer – via email larry.manacop@cucgov.org; and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Administrative Technician Senior – via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC and NMHC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC and NMHC.

WILLIAM B. GILMORE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator

Opinion

Hafa Adair

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

The No Ban Act would limit the power of future President Trumps

One of the first inhumane and racially tinged acts of the Trump administration was to close the borders to travelers from seven Muslim-majority nations for 90 days and to global refugees for 120 days (except Syrian refugees, who were banned indefinitely). These moves were all in an effort, President Donald Trump said, “to protect the American people from terrorist attacks by foreign nationals admitted to the United States.”

It took him three tries over 17 months to finally broaden the entry ban sufficiently for the Supreme Court to let it stand despite the clear anti-Muslim intent—Trump said during the campaign that he wanted a “total and complete shutdown of Muslims”—and the administration’s legal dodges to achieve it.

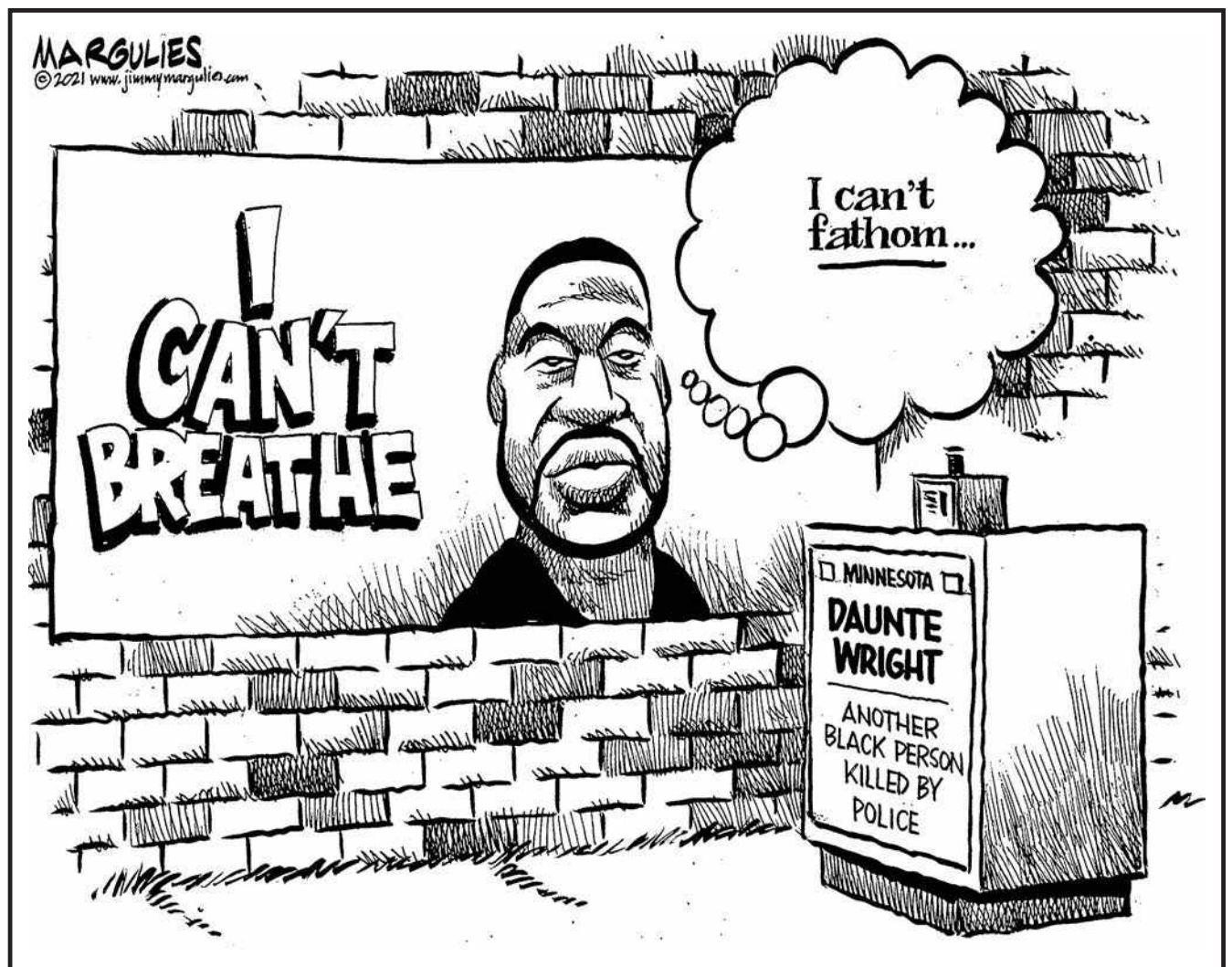
Lost in the debate was the issue of how the president had such power in the first place. It’s because Congress gave it to him. Federal law gives the president significant leeway to develop rules and regulations on how the immigration system should work, including wide latitude on deciding who can enter the country.

In delegating such authority to the president, Congress assumed the elected chief executive would have the nation’s best interests at heart, would respect the democratic institutions that make government work, and would not base policies on a foundation of racial and religious animus. Well, Trump exposed the dangerous repercussions from that mistaken presumption.

Last Wednesday, the House began trying to wrest back some power by passing the No Ban Act, a bill by Rep. Judy Chu, D-Calif., to bar a president from banning entry on the basis of religion. The proposal also would restrict temporary bans to those that “address specific acts implicating a compelling government interest” in protecting “the security or public safety of the United States or the preservation of human rights, democratic processes or institutions, or international stability.”

Any restriction must be narrowly tailored, and the president also would have to first consult with Congress, then deliver a follow-up report within 48 hours or the ban would expire. And the bill would allow people unlawfully harmed by such a restriction to sue in federal court, a recourse not often available under existing immigration law.

Those are sound steps that boil down to Congress clarifying what powers it wants to give the executive in this section of immigration law, while making it more difficult for a rogue president to concoct another variation of a Muslim ban in the future. The sad part is that such a legal restriction is even necessary. Early indications are the measure faces an uphill fight in the Senate, but its members ought to join the House and send it along to President Biden, who has

See **PRESIDENT** on Next Page

I love Disney World, but wokeness is ruining the experience

By **JONATHAN VANBOSKERCK**
ORLANDO SENTINEL

My family and I have been loyal Disney customers for decades. We vacation at Disney World every year. We take a Disney cruise every year or two. Consequently, we spend way too much money in Orlando.

Unfortunately, I am strongly rethinking our commitment to Disney and, thus, Orlando. The more Disney moves away from the values and vision of Walt Disney, the less Disney World means to me. Disney is forgetting that guest immersion is at the core of its business model. When I stand in Galaxy’s Edge or Fantasyland, I know I am in a theme park but through immersion and my willingness to set the real world aside, something magical happens.

That spell is broken when the immersive experience is shattered by the real world. And boy, has Disney been breaking the immersion.

Recently, Disney announced that cast members are now permitted to display tattoos, wear inclusive uniforms and display inclusive haircuts. Disney did all of this in the name of allowing cast members to express themselves.

The problem is, I’m not traveling across the country and paying thousands of dollars to watch someone I do not know express themselves. I am there for the immersion and the fantasy, not the reality of a stranger’s self-expression. I do not begrudge these people their individuality and I wish them well in their personal lives, but I do not get to express my individuality at my place of business.

What’s next, is Disney going to end the rule barring on stage cell-phone use by cast members as an infringement on self-expression?

More broadly, like many corporations, Disney has been politicizing its business. Full disclosure: I am a Christian and a conservative Republican, so the people who run Disney and I do not see eye to eye.

Regardless, corporations have always made politically motivated decisions. Usually, it is due to the desire to make a profit, but sometimes it is due to the values of the people in the corporation. Walt Disney used his corporation to express his patriotism during World War II and his pro-capitalism beliefs afterward. The difference today is that the people who run Disney use social media to scream to the whole world that a decision has been made for political reasons.

Disney is in the process of taking the woke scalpel to the Jungle Cruise. Trader Sam is out because he might offend certain people. Every grown-up in the room realizes that Trader Sam is not a representation of reality and is meant as a funny and silly caricature. It is no more based in racism than every Disney caricature of an out-of-touch white American dad.

The next time I ride Jungle Cruise I will not be thinking about the gloriously entertaining puns of the skippers, I will be thinking about Disney’s political agenda. That’s a mood killer.

Disney proclaims that Splash Mountain must change because of its association with “Song of the South.” Disney owns Splash Mountain so it can do what it wants. But if Disney screams at the top of its corporate voice, which is pretty loud, that it is changing it to appease a certain political point of view, now every time I look at the ride I am thinking about politics.

The same with Pirates of the Caribbean. Disney has made significant changes to Pirates of the Caribbean over the years. Whether Disney caved to political pressure or really thought the alterations were necessary is irrelevant.

Pirates used to be one of my favorite attractions. My family would always ride it first on our first day at the Magic Kingdom. Now, we do not even ride it every trip. When my family rides Pirates now, each of the changed scenes takes us out of the illusion because they remind us of reality and the politics that forced the changes.

Disney World is going to lose us as customers if it continues down this path. I do not want to have Disney World taken away from us because Disney cares more about politics than happy guests.

This should matter to the people of Orlando because, if Disney drives away customers like me, Orlando loses money. I can take my tourist dollars elsewhere. I would rather keep spending them in Orlando but people like me feel more and more excluded by Disney’s decisions.

The parks are less fun because immersion and thus the joy is taking a back seat to politics.

Disney, please return to the values and vision of Walt. The customer experience should be the core of your business model. Immersion should not be sacrificed on the altar of political correctness and appeasing the Twitter mob.

Jonathan VanBoskerck lives in North Las Vegas, Nevada. He wrote this for the Orlando Sentinel.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

CNMI Democrats 100 days report

In 100 days in office, and in keeping with our platform and pledge to the people of the Northern Mariana Islands, Democrat legislators have organized our committees in the House, introduced substantive legislation to uplift the lives of our people and create a more responsible government, and made the legislative process more transparent and accessible. We have also launched new oversight and accountability initiatives, and engaged with constituents and community partners to enhance our villages.

Democrats chair the following committees in the House: Ways and Means (Rep. Donald Manglona – Precinct 7); Judiciary and Governmental Operations (Rep. Celina Babauta – P1); Natural Resources (Rep. Sheila Babauta – P4); Health and Welfare (Rep. Tina Sablan – P2); Education (Rep. Leila Staffler – P5); Gaming (Rep. Ed Propst – P1); Federal and Foreign Affairs (Rep. Vicente Camacho – P3); Commerce, Tourism, and Cannabis (Rep. De-

nita Yangetmai – P3); and Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications (Rep. Richard Lizama – P5). Democrats also lead the minority in the Senate: Sen. Paul Manglona (Rota) and Sen. Edith Deleon Guerrero (Saipan).

Democrats are pushing meaningful legislation for a more fiscally responsible government, help for working families, safer communities, and investments in our healthcare and educational systems. In 100 Days, Democrats have introduced and passed out of the House legislation that asserts the legislature's power of the purse over half a billion dollars in federal fiscal recovery monies coming to the CNMI government through the American Rescue Plan Act (HB 22-33), and a bill to restore the Earned Income Tax Credit to the CNMI's working families (HB 22-19). Democrats have also introduced legislation to set clearer parameters for legislative allowances and expenditures (HB 22-30 and HB 22-31); to prohibit public officials from engaging in political activity while on government travel (SB 22-15); to provide a tax credit to taxpayers who donate to food pantries, homeless shelters, or soup kitchens (HB 22-34); to establish supplemental home investment programs to assist first-time homeowners (SB 22-13 and SB 22-14); and to authorize liquor licensing for locally-owned online small businesses (HB 22-55).

For safer communities, Democrats have introduced the CNMI's first Hate Crimes Act, to strengthen sentencing penalties for crimes motivated by hate (HB 22-18), and a package of criminal justice reform bills, including bills to prohibit convicted felons from possessing firearms (HB 22-35) and to increase protections for children who are victims of abuse (HB 22-38 and HB 22-39). For investments in our healthcare and educational systems, Democrats have introduced legislation to increase the tobacco tax and direct those revenues to health promotion and disease prevention and control programs, including health outreach in local schools (HB 22-54); to assist the CNMI Medicaid Agency in its efforts to build technical and staffing capacity (HJR 22-4; HB 22-48; and HB 22-53); and to support the Commonwealth's only trade school, the Northern Marianas Technical Institute (NMTI), in its efforts to secure funding and hire additional staff (HJR 22-3 and HJR 22-5).

Democrats are delivering on their promises for more oversight and accountability. In 100 days, the Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee has reopened the investigation into Governor Ralph Torres' public expenditures, and the Gaming Committee has initiated oversight on Saipan's troubled casino licensee, Imperial Pacific International. Democrats have also called upon the Governor to provide a report to the legislature on the findings and activities of the Development Plan Advisory Committee with respect to the Saipan casino project (SJR 22-01), and introduced legislation to authorize a second Saipan casino license and end the casino monopoly (SB 22-23). On the fiscal condition of the government and the disposition of federal funds, the Ways and Means Committee has convened meetings with Finance and the Office of Management and Budget, and begun the budget process for FY 2022.

The committees have also engaged with the departments and

agencies under their respective jurisdictions, on the implementation of critical public programs and services. The Natural Resources Committee has held hearings with CNMI resource agencies, including Public Lands on key land leases. The Federal and Foreign Affairs Committee has met with CNMI Labor on the implementation of the PUA program, as well as with CNMI Veterans Affairs, Bureau of Military Affairs, and Office of Vocational Rehabilitation on their respective programs. The Commerce, Tourism, and Cannabis Committee has had meetings with Commerce, the Marianas Visitors Authority, and the Cannabis Commission. The Public Utilities, Transportation, and Communications Committee has toured the Saipan power plant and held briefings with the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation and Public Works. The Education Committee has conducted hearings with all three public educational institutions: Public School System, Northern Marianas College, and NMTI, and toured the NMC CREES Agricultural Station. The Health and Welfare Committee has conducted hearings with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation, the CNMI Medicaid Agency, and the Covid-19 Task Force, among others, toured the HOPE Recovery Center, and is now preparing for public hearings on the medical referral program.

Democrats have made the legislative process more transparent and accessible. Meetings of the House are now more accessible than ever, and sessions and committee meetings are held in the House Chamber, digitally recorded, broadcast live on cable television, and livestreamed on the Legislature's Facebook page. All meetings are open to the public and public comments are accepted. Democrats have also proposed changes to the House and Senate rules to establish more accountability and reporting requirements for legislative expenditures.

Democrats are working hard to improve our villages. In 100 days, and in collaboration with numerous community partners, Democrats have undertaken projects throughout our precincts to beautify our villages and public parks, dispose of thousands of pounds of trash, remove junk cars, plant trees and community gardens, distribute hundreds of food packages and other care items to residents in need, and restore recreational facilities and community centers. Democrats have also introduced legislation to require pet owners to keep their dogs on leashes and contained within private properties (HB 22-23).

More to come! Meet your CNMI legislators at a town hall near you. Legislators in the House and Senate are planning a series of town hall meetings in the upcoming weeks to report to the community on legislative activities, provide an overview of plans for the months ahead, and listen to the issues and concerns of our constituents. Dates and times will be announced shortly.

Reps. Christina Sablan, Ed Propst, Leila Staffler, Sheila Babauta, Denita Yangetmai, Donald Manglona, Celina Babauta, Vicente Camacho, Richard Lizama, Sen. Paul Manglona, Sen. Edith Deleon Guerrero

22nd Legislature, Capital Hill

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Flaunting-Related Injury

As a seasonal resident of Saipan, I have observed many tourists coming to grief on the beach as they innocently try to emulate their social media idols. I am therefore writing to make others aware of a new class of ailment called "Flaunting-Related Injury." FRI was first observed among a small subset of particularly attractive, bikini-clad people, such as Salma Hayek and Elizabeth Hurley, who began flaunting back in the 1990s, long before the advent of social media. Today, though, ubiquitous photo-sharing apps such as Instagram and Facebook and Snapchat make it possible for average people to flaunt.

According to medical experts, FRI is characterized by chronic sprains and strains of the muscles and ligaments involved in showcasing one's swimsuit-clad body, or flaunting, in a manner calculated to result in the most appealing and revealing (but not quite pornographic) photograph. The severity of FRI depends on such factors as degree of arching of the spine, speed and degree of saucy cocking of the hip, and height obtained during exuberant leaps skyward in a fully-extended splits position. Secondary to FRI are minor injuries such as sunburn, grit-knee from kneeling on the beach, and HCPS, or Hermit Crab Pinch Syndrome, resulting from assuming a full lotus position in a bikini, with shoulders thrown back fetchingly, while unknowingly sitting upon the subterranean hiding places of the reclusive (hence the name) yet territorial creatures.

Injury can be avoided by not flaunting at all. However, if you must flaunt, experts recommend doing so only in the early morning or the evening when the rays of the sun are less intense, wearing knee pads, and checking the area for crabs before flaunting.

Please, be careful out there!

Christopher Jones

Garapan

PRESIDENT

From Page 8

voiced support for the proposal.

And Congress should not stop there. Trump taught us many things about the weaknesses in some of our democratic institutions, including the fact that the executive branch has, over the decades, knocked the balance of powers off kilter. In a sense, Trump merely accelerated the ongoing shift in power from an increasingly dysfunctional Congress to a president willing to act unilaterally. This isn't about liberal versus conservative views on specific issues so much as it is about the legislative branch trimming the sails of the executive branch.

One target for lawmakers should be the National Emergencies Act of 1976, which sets the circumstances under which the president can use a broad array of heightened powers granted by Con-

gress. The point was to enable the president to tackle problems that needed a faster or more flexible response than the legislative process could provide. But the act contains a significant loophole that Trump exploited: Unable to persuade Congress to fund his border wall, he declared an emergency to give himself the power to build the wall anyway. Congress can end such a declaration, but that is subject to a presidential veto, which requires a two-thirds vote in each chamber to override.

That's way too much power for the executive. Congress should look to revise the law to return more oversight power to the legislative branch.






The wall fight is just one example of the ways Trump, who functioned as a human stress test on the checks and balances in our system, sought to circumvent the requirements of Congress and federal law. Happily, many of his administration's efforts to rewrite or ignore the rules ran afoul of the Administra-

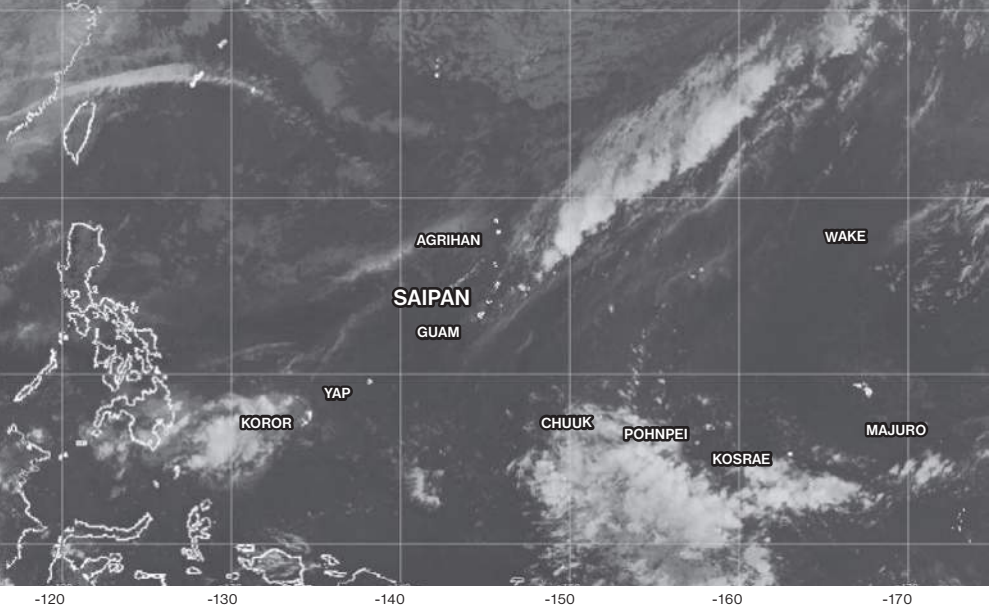
tive Procedure Act, which spells out what steps the executive branch must take in crafting regulations to implement laws. In fact, the Trump administration's routine failure to follow the APA could well have saved the country from the worst excesses of his anti-regulatory agenda, particularly in his rollback of environmental protections.

The firewall provided by the APA is merely procedural, however, so it may not curb a power-grabbing administration that carefully dots its i's and crosses its t's. Congress ought to take a wholesale look at the holes and weaknesses Trump exposed (and exploited) in our system of governance and come up with fixes, lest we run afoul of the old warning that those who don't learn from the past are doomed to repeat it.

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The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
									
Partly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy. Isolated showers.		Partly cloudy. Isolated showers.		Partly cloudy. Isolated showers.	
86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°	86°	76°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 7:46 AM, TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2021
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite imagery shows partly sunny (low end mostly cloudy) skies over the Marianas with isolated showers. The buoys reveal combined seas of 6 to 8 feet, composed mainly of west-northwest swell left over from Typhoon Surigae.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mp and, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
 - Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
 - Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20

Source: Office of the Governor

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86 80 °F	
Palau	Partly Cloudy	86 77 °F	
Yap	Thunderstorms	89 72 °F	
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	86 80 °F	
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	86 79 °F	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85 79 °F	
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	85 80 °F	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:55 AM	6:33 PM
Thursday	5:54 AM	6:34 PM
Friday	5:54 AM	6:34 PM
Saturday	5:53 AM	6:34 PM
Sunday	5:53 AM	6:34 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	6:39 AM	7:48 PM
Thursday	-	7:32 AM	8:54 PM
Friday	-	8:29 AM	10:00 PM
Saturday	-	9:29 AM	11:03 PM
Sunday	-	10:30 AM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	69 60 °F	
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	82 54 °F	
Hong Kong	Light Rain	76 67 °F	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	84 71 °F	
London	Partly Cloudy	55 41 °F	
Los Angeles	Sunny	82 63 °F	
Manila	Partly Cloudy	96 81 °F	
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	57 51 °F	
Miami	Sunny	85 77 °F	
New York	Partly Cloudy	69 56 °F	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	67 49 °F	
Paris	Partly Cloudy	54 35 °F	
Pusan	Sunny	69 43 °F	
Rome	Rain	65 53 °F	
Salem	Cloudy	57 39 °F	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	65 51 °F	
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	79 57 °F	
Tokyo	Cloudy	61 51 °F	
Washington, DC	Sunny	85 66 °F	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
2:19 AM	Low Tide	0.83	
7:47 AM	High Tide	2.13	
2:44 PM	Low Tide	-0.22	
9:22 PM	High Tide	2.14	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 29, 2021							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	6:30am	7:10am	1, 4, 5, 6	UA174	4:50am	5:31am	1, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	6:30am	8:50pm	5 via Guam	UA184/174	9:50pm	5:31am+1	5 via Guam
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
UA183	7:05pm	8:50pm	5	UA184	9:50pm	3:45am+1	5
UA183	7:15pm	9:10pm	1, 3,	UA184	10:25pm	4:10am+1	1, 3
LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. <i>(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)</i>							

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 9, 2021							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri	1204	10:00	10:15	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sat	1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sun	1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1208	14:00	14:15	Daily
3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri	1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sat	1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Mon/Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri/Sun	1211	17:00	17:15	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				1212	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
GUAM TO ROTA				2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
				2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
				2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
				2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
				2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

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Business



BEA CABRERA

2D To Go and 2D Canvass is located in San Jose beside Atkins Kroll.



BEA CABRERA

Business owner Meena Benavente with her children pose inside 2D To Go and 2D Canvass located in San Jose. The soon-to-open shop aims to promote good health and wellbeing.

Combining healthy food options and inspiring creativity are what cousins and now business partners Meena Benavente and Miki Kim had in mind in coming up with their first business venture that aims to help promote a healthy lifestyle on Saipan. Opening on May 1 and located in San Jose beside Atkins Kroll, 2D To Go and 2D Canvass belong under one umbrella and it is all about looking after our health and overall wellbeing.

"2D To Go is a healthy meal grab available at breakfast and lunch open from 6:30am to 2:30pm. There are many breakfast options on island but

not a lot of places that provide healthy options and that is what we want to provide for the community... I believe in the saying 'a healthy gut means a healthy mind' and that is why our meals will focus on fiber among other nutritious sources. We see a lot of starched based and processed food being offered around so we would like to help people have healthy options from the 2D To Go," Benavente said

"2D Canvass is an opportunity for children, teens, and adults to play, learn, distress, and use the moment to put worries away by focusing on the painting... For chil-

dren, we will offer Saturday morning events that includes painting, planting, etc. that will help them with hands-on learning... for adults, we are open Tuesday and Thursday from 6pm to 8pm where they can paint, relax after a hard day's work and make their creativity shine. We also accommodate private parties and occasions... we are authorized with alcohol license for those who will request alcoholic beverages," she added.

According to Kim, who graduated from Northern Mariana College, this collaboration is a dream come true. "Now, I am my own boss..."

aside from providing a healthy lifestyle for the community, I hope I will be able to empower other women to follow their dreams and know that 'hey you can do this too,'" she said.

"As business partners, there were a lot of ups and downs but in the end, it brought us closer and learned that we are able to come into an understanding where we are both happy... we are glad we were able to overcome challenges," she added.

Benavente, who is an educator and known for making art with messages of hope on tin roofs after Super Typhoon Yutu, knows what kind of environment and décor will

promote serenity and calm in the shop. "2D To Go and 2D Canvass offers a calm and soothing environment for guests...the walls in the shop are painted black and white so when guests come here the environment promote calm and not overwhelming... Artwork about our island community by me are displayed because based on scientific research, nature or everything around you has a lot of healing power which is why everything here in the shop is based on what we see in our community," she said.

"The ultimate vision that I have always wanted from

years back since Super Typhoon Yutu is to provide a place where you can walk in and taken cared of from head to toe. With paint sessions and healthy food, it's a really great start," she added

2D To Go and 2D Canvass is located at 2/F Saipan Dreams Commercial Building along Msgr. De Leon Guerrero Road in San Jose. Operating hours will be from Monday to Saturday, 6:30am-2:30pm. For more information, call (670) 234-2323 or visit their Facebook page @2D.togo and Instagram: @2d.togo @the.2d.canvass and email: 2d.togo@gmail.com

Continental Europe could allow US tourists back this summer

BRUSSELS (AP)—American tourists could soon be visiting continental Europe again, more than a year after the European Union restricted travel to the 27-nation bloc to a bare minimum to contain the coronavirus.

EU officials said Monday they are completing plans to allow Americans back this summer, depending on the course of the outbreak on both sides of the Atlantic.

The EU Commission, the EU's executive arm, will make a proposal soon to its member states but didn't say when exactly leisure travel could resume or whether a reciprocal approach will apply to Europeans wanting to visit the U.S., which has closed its doors to tourists from the continent.

Also, it was not immediately clear whether all U.S. tourists would have to produce proof of vaccination for entry, or whether a negative test for the coronavirus or proof of recent recovery from COVID-19 would be acceptable instead.

"These are among the questions we'll still need to figure out," European Com-

mission spokesman Adalbert Jahnz said. Jahnz said the EU's executive body is hoping to restore trans-Atlantic leisure travel "as soon as it is safe to do so."

On Sunday, The New York Times quoted Commission President Ursula von der Leyen as saying that fully vaccinated Americans will be able to visit EU countries this summer since all coronavirus vaccines used in the U.S. have also been approved by the EU's regulator, the European Medicines Agency.

"This will enable free movement and the travel to the European Union," she said. "Because one thing is clear: All 27 member states will accept, unconditionally, all those who are vaccinated with vaccines that are approved by EMA."

With more than 15 million Americans a year visiting Europe before the crisis, the prospect of U.S. travelers once more flocking to such attractions as the Eiffel Tower, the canals of Venice or Germany's Brandenburg Gate is welcome news for the continent's hard-hit tourism industry.

Scientists: Up to 25,000 barrels at DDT dump site in Pacific

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Marine scientists say they have found what they believe to be as many as 25,000 barrels that possibly contain DDT dumped off the Southern California coast near Catalina Island, where a massive underwater toxic waste site dating back to World War II has long been suspected.

The 27,345 "barrel-like" images were captured by researchers at the University of California San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography. They mapped more than 36,000 acres of seafloor between Santa Catalina Island and the Los Angeles coast in a region previously found to contain high levels of the toxic chemical in sediments and in the ecosystem.

Historical shipping logs show that industrial companies in Southern California used the basin as a dumping ground until 1972, when the Marine Protection, Research

and Sanctuaries Act, also known as the Ocean Dumping Act, was enacted.

Resting deep in the ocean, the exact location and extent of the dumping was not known until now.

The territory covered was "staggering," said Eric Terrill, chief scientist of the expedition and director of the Marine Physical Laboratory at Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

Underwater drones using sonar technology captured high-resolution images of barrels resting 3,000 feet (900 meters) below the surface all along the steep seafloor that was surveyed. They also were seen beyond the dumpsite limits.

"It really was a surprise to everybody who's worked with the data and who sailed at sea," he told reporters Monday.

The survey provides "a wide-area map" of the barrels, though it will be up to others to confirm through sediment

sampling that the containers hold DDT, Terrill said. It's estimated between 350 and 700 tons of DDT were dumped in the area, 12 miles (20 kilometers) from Los Angeles, and 8 miles (12 kilometers) from Catalina Island.

The long-term impact on marine life and humans is still unknown, said Scripps chemical oceanographer and professor of geosciences Lihini Aluwihare, who in 2015 co-authored a study that found high amounts of DDT and other man-made chemicals in the blubber of bottlenose dolphins that died of natural causes.

"These results also raise questions about the continued exposure and potential impacts on marine mammal health, especially in light of how DDT has been shown to have multi-generational impacts in humans," said Aluwihare, who was not part of the survey expedition.

Diana Aga, a chemistry professor at University at Buffalo who is not affiliated with the study, said the findings were shocking if the barrels are proven to contain the toxic chemical. "That's a lot of DDT at the bottom of the ocean," she said.

If the barrels haven't leaked, they could be moved to a place where disposal is safer, Aga said. If they leaked, scientists could take samples from the water, sediment and other marine life to gauge the damage.

Scientists conducted the survey from March 10-24 following a Los Angeles Times report last year about evidence that DDT was dumped into the ocean.

"Unfortunately, the basin offshore Los Angeles had been a dumping ground for industrial waste for several decades, beginning in the 1930s. We found an extensive debris field in the wide area survey," Terrill said.

Nation

US to share AstraZeneca shots with world after safety check

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. will begin sharing its entire stock of AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccines with the world once it clears federal safety reviews, the White House said Monday, with as many as 60 million doses expected to be available for export in the coming months.

The move greatly expands on the Biden administration's action last month to share about 4 million doses of the vaccine with Mexico and Canada. The AstraZeneca vaccine is widely in use around the world but has not yet been authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

The White House is increasingly feeling assured about the supply of the three vaccines being administered in the U.S., particularly following the restart of the single-dose Johnson & Johnson shot over the weekend. The U.S. has also been under mounting pressure in recent weeks to share more of its vaccine supply with the world, as countries like India experience devastating surges of the virus and others struggle to access doses needed to protect their most vulnerable populations.

"Given the strong portfolio of vaccines that the U.S. already has and that have been authorized by the FDA, and given that the AstraZeneca vaccine is not authorized for



In this April 21, 2021, file photo, President Joe Biden speaks about COVID-19 vaccinations at the White House, in Washington.

use in the U.S., we do not need to use the AstraZeneca vaccine here during the next several months," said White House COVID-19 coordinator Jeff Zients. "Therefore the U.S. is looking at options to share the AstraZeneca doses with other countries as they become available."

More than 3 million people worldwide have died of COVID-19, including more than

572,000 in the U.S. The U.S. has vaccinated more than 53% of its adult population with at least one dose of its three authorized vaccines from Pfizer, Moderna and J&J, and it expects to have enough supply for its entire population by early summer.

About 10 million doses of AstraZeneca vaccine have been produced but have yet to pass review by the FDA

to "meet its expectations for product quality," Zients said, noting the U.S. regulator is recognized as the "gold standard" for safety around the world. That process could be completed in the next several weeks. About 50 million more doses are in various stages of production and could be available to ship in May and June

pending FDA sign-off.

The U.S. has yet to finalize where the AstraZeneca doses will go, Zients said. Neighbors Mexico and Canada have asked the Biden administration to share more doses, while dozens of other countries are looking to access supplies of the vaccine.

"We're in the planning pro-

cess at this point in time," said White House press secretary Jen Psaki, when asked where the doses would go.

The AstraZeneca doses will be donated by the U.S. government, which has contracted with the company for a total of 300 million doses—though the company has faced production issues.

The administration's move to share vaccines drew praise from nongovernmental aid groups, who encouraged the White House to develop plans to share even more doses.

"The Biden administration's decision to begin sharing AstraZeneca vaccines is welcome news and an important first step towards the US sharing more of its massive vaccine stockpile," said Tom Hart, acting CEO at The ONE Campaign. "The Biden administration should build on this welcome first step and start sharing more vaccines as soon as possible."

In part because the AstraZeneca vaccine is not expected to play a significant factor in the U.S. virus response, the White House was also moving to share raw materials for the production of the AstraZeneca vaccine with India, which has emerged as a global hotspot for the virus, by diverting some of its orders to the vaccine manufacturer Serum Institute of India.

Cuomo on sex harassment claims: 'I didn't do anything wrong'

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—In his first face-to-face encounter with journalists in months, Gov. Andrew Cuomo on Monday flatly denied he had done anything inappropriate with any of the women who have accused him of sexual misconduct and harassment.

Speaking to reporters at the New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse, the Democrat abandoned his past approach of expressing contrition for some past behavior while declining to address whether specific allegations were true.

"You were in those rooms. You know the truth. So can you tell the people of the state of New York yes or no? Did you do the things you were accused of?" asked New York Times reporter Jesse McKinley.

"To put it very simply, no," Cuomo said.

"All the groping, the sexual harassment, you deny all of that?" McKinley said.

"That's right. Yes," Cuomo said.

Several current and former state employees and other women have accused Cuomo of making unwanted sexual remarks and advances, giving them unwanted kisses or touching them inappropriately.

One female aide said Cuomo groped her breasts after summoning her to his official residence.

Before Monday, Cuomo had repeatedly denied he touched anyone inappropriately. He's said "sorry" for making some people uncomfortable with comments or gestures he claimed were playful.

Cuomo's said he likes to hug and kiss people because of his Italian-American heritage.

Asked if he would consider disciplining himself or resigning if the state attorney general, who is investigating the claims, reports he did harass women, Cuomo dismissed that possibility.

"The report can't say anything different because I

didn't do anything wrong," Cuomo said.

This was the first time Cuomo has allowed a group of journalists to question him in person since sexual harassment allegations surfaced in December.

For months, citing COVID-19 precautions, he has taken questions only via telephone or internet conference calls—forums where his staff can control who asks questions and journalists often aren't allowed to ask follow-up queries.

A lawyer for Charlotte Bennett, a former aide who accused Cuomo of hitting on her while they worked together, said the governor's new claim he did nothing wrong was "revisionist history."

"Just weeks ago he admitted numerous times to making 'jokes' and other inappropriate comments to Ms. Bennett, which are defined as sexual harassment under the very policies he enacted," the attorney, Debra Katz, said.

DENVER (AP)—A Colorado police officer accused of dislocating the shoulder of a 73-year-old woman with dementia while arresting her seemed to be aware he had injured her. He told fellow officers "ready for the pop?" as he showed them his body camera footage, according to police station surveillance video with enhanced audio that was made public Monday by the woman's lawyer.

Officer Austin Hopp made the comment while showing the other officers the part of the arrest that shows Karen Garner being held against the hood of a patrol car in Loveland, about 50 miles (80 kilometers) north of Denver last year, her handcuffed left arm bent up behind her head. The body camera footage, which can be heard but not seen on the surveillance video, was also previously released by Garner's lawyer.

The videos plus a lawsuit filed against Hopp, other officers and the city and investigations into the arrest came this month amid a national reckoning over the use of force

by police against people—including those with mental and physical health conditions.

The surveillance video captured in the Loveland police station shows two other officers, one male and female, watching the footage with Hopp as he makes the "pop" comment. The female officer, who helped during the arrest and says "I hate this."

The video then shows her pull her hat over her eyes while another male officer says, "I love it."

Earlier in the surveillance video, before the officers watch the body camera footage, Hopp says Garner is "flexible" and says something else that's inaudible. He then makes another reference to the popping sound, telling the female officer that "I was pushing, pushing, pushing. I hear—pop. I was like 'oh no,'" he said. The female officer puts her head in her hands.

At the time, Garner was in a holding cell a few feet away, handcuffed to a bench. The federal lawsuit filed on her behalf earlier this month said she received no medical care for

about six hours after she was taken to jail.

Later in the surveillance video, Hopp and the other male officer fist bump at the part of the body camera footage where Hopp dismisses the concerns of a man passing by the arrest scene who stops to object to how Hopp treated what the man thought was a child.

After watching that part of the body cam video a second time, the second officer who is recorded on the surveillance video reacts to the man who stopped at the arrest scene by saying: "What are you doing? Get out of here. This is none of your business."

Hopp arrested Garner in June 2020 after she allegedly left a store without paying for about \$14 worth of items. His body camera footage shows Hopp catching up to her as she walks through a field along a road. She shrugs and turns away from him and he quickly grabs her arm and pushes her 80-pound (36-kilogram) body to the ground. She looks confused and repeatedly says, "I am going home."

Asia

ASIAN BRIEFS

COVID-19 infections surge past 1M in PH

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Confirmed coronavirus infections in the Philippines surged past 1 million on Monday in the country's latest grim milestone, as officials assess whether to extend a monthlong lockdown in the Manila region amid a deadly spike or relax it to fight an economic recession, joblessness and hunger. The Department of Health reported 8,929 new infections on Monday, bringing the country's total to 1,006,428, including 16,853 deaths. The totals are the second highest in Southeast Asia after Indonesia. The Philippines imposed its first massive coronavirus lockdown in March last year, shutting down most businesses, confining millions of people to their homes and shutting public transport. The heavy restrictions were eased later in the year but the economy still contracted by 9.6% in 2020, with unemployment and hunger at their worst in years. Infections, however, spiked again last month to some of the worst levels in Asia, prompting President Rodrigo Duterte's administration to reimpose a lockdown in the Manila region, the country's financial and commercial hub with

more than 25 million people.

Myanmar protests continue after ASEAN peace initiative

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Protesters in Myanmar's largest city braved potential violence by security forces on Monday to demonstrate against February's military coup, showing their resolve to continue their resistance two days after Southeast Asian leaders met to address the country's crisis. The group of mainly young people flooded into the streets of a Yangon neighborhood carrying banners and brandishing the three-fingered salute which the movement has adopted as its symbol. Demonstrations have continued in many parts of the country since Saturday's meeting of leaders from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, as have arrests and beatings by security forces despite an apparent agreement by junta leader Senior Gen. Min Aung Hlaing to end the violence. More than 700 protesters and bystanders have been killed by the security forces since the Feb. 1 coup, according to several detailed estimates. The junta's own figure is roughly one-third of that. It also says it does not use disproportionate force to put down what it describes as rioting.

HK, Singapore to launch air travel bubble from May 26

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong and Singapore said Monday they would launch an air travel bubble in May, months after an initial arrangement that would allow tourists to fly between both cities without having to serve quarantine was postponed. Flights will begin from May 26. Visitors will not have to go through the quarantine as long as they fulfill the conditions of travelling within the air travel bubble. Hong Kong and Singapore had previously announced the launch of an air travel bubble in November last year but shelved the plan days before it was to start after Hong Kong saw a surge in COVID-19 infections. The air travel bubble comes as both Singapore and Hong Kong seek to boost tourism amid the pandemic, which has seen various countries close borders and declining air travel. "The two governments have reached consensus on the latest arrangement and will put in place more stringent public health protocols in response to the latest epidemic development," said Hong Kong's Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Edward Yau in a statement.

DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

†JOHANNES NGIRAIBUUCH

APRIL 07, 1944 – APRIL 23, 2021



His memories will live in the heart of his:

Wife: Erlinda Ngiraibuuch

Children: Jackie Ngiraibuuch
Jamie Ngiraibuuch
Joanna Ngiraibuuch
Jose/Nora O. Ngiraibuuch (Genevieve, Joanna, & Jessamae)
Merlie Ngiraibuuch (Jamin N. Regis, Brandon N. Regis, & Alyssa N. Regis)
Flordeliza Ngiraibuuch (Kimberly Phan, Elizabeth Phan, David Jr. Phan, & Angie Phan)

Brother: Aurelio Ngiraibuuch

Sister: Laisang Ramon

He will also be missed by his numerous relatives and friends.

Memorial Services will be held on Thursday, April 29, 2021
at Nuestra Senora Dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 9:00 am.
Cremation will follow and inurnment will be Friday, April 30, 2021
at Santuario Pax Memorial Gardens, Kagman at 4:30 pm.

Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'ase

THE FAMILY

In Humble Gratitude

Retta Sue Sablan Hamilton

The tears have dried, the flowers have withered, but your presence with us at the daily Eucharistic Celebrations, and the funeral services of our beloved †Retta Sue has given us the courage to endure the pain of our great loss. Because of her passing to eternal life, a new life has begun. A life with her Creator, and ours – a life in which we have created new acquaintances, making new friends and developing a stronger bond with families. Because of these, we are forever grateful for the memories you have instilled in us.

A beautiful and meaningful service for our beloved †Retta Sue would not have been possible without the unselfish help and support of families and friends. Our sincerest appreciation to Fr. Albert Pellezar, OAR and Fr. Jesse Reyes for presiding over the Mass of Christian Burial, Deacon Jeff Camacho, Frank Cabrera and Onra Life Memorials team, Fr. Charlie Borja who did the Inurnment Rites. And our rosary techa, Helen Sablan.

To all who have helped in one way or another – Thank you.

May the Lord bless you and keep you safe.

May the Lord shine His face upon you and be gracious to you.

May the Lord lift His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Thank You

Olomwaay

Delia Reyes Sablan, Children and Family



World

AS VIRUS PATIENTS NUMBERS PEAK France reopens schools

PARIS (AP)—Nursery and primary schools reopened on Monday across France after a three-week closure in the first step out of the country's partial lockdown, despite numbers of COVID-19 patients in intensive care units reaching their highest level since last spring.

French authorities argue that daily numbers of new infections have started decreasing, providing encouraging signs about the impact of restrictions that were imposed at the beginning of the month.

Schools have been closed since April 5 as the government decided to bring forward the date of Easter holidays, in an effort to slow the spread of the virus.

Starting from next week, the ban on domestic travel will be lifted. The nighttime curfew, now in place from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m., will be maintained.

"We're going to gradually reopen," President Emmanuel Macron said while visiting a primary school on Monday in Melun, south of Paris. "We will do this very slowly to avoid (the virus) to start spreading again."

Macron said he is anticipating a better situation next month when a greater propor-

tion of the population will be vaccinated and the expected decrease in numbers of daily infections after the partial lockdown.

Asked by a child about the curfew, Macron said "we will try to delay it a little bit (at night) ... because 7 p.m. is early."

France intends to gradually reopen nonessential shops, some of its cultural venues and cafe and restaurant terraces starting from mid-May.

Authorities are reporting more than 30,000 confirmed virus infections each day, down from about 40,000 earlier this month. Yet French hospitals are still close to being overwhelmed, with nearly 6,000 critically ill patients in French intensive care units. And France has reported more than 100,000 COVID-19 deaths.

More than 14 million people in France have received at least one dose of a vaccine, about 26% of its adult population.

Dr. Eric Caumes, head of the infections and tropical diseases department at Paris' Pitie Salpetriere Hospital, said he thinks "this is not very reasonable" to start reopening the

country now.

"Figures are not very encouraging," he said on news broadcaster BFM. "They have only started to decrease in certain places, so saying that we're loosening precautions despite figures not being down yet—we obviously have concerns."

As schools open again, all French teachers and school employees will be given two self-administered virus tests per week to carry out at home, the Education Ministry said in a statement. In addition, high school students can get tested at school once a week, with more tests progressively rolled out for younger students.

In a Paris school on Monday morning, parents brought their children feeling both relieved and worried.

"To be honest, we are not worried so much about the younger ones in primary schools. We are more worried about the other kids who are in the secondary schools, where I think the situation can be more complicated," Parisian Jerome Keff said.

Middle school and high school students are attending online classes this week. They will be back at schools on May 3.

UK leader denies saying 1000s of bodies better than lockdown

LONDON (AP)—British Prime Minister Boris Johnson dismissed as "total rubbish" a press report which quoted him as allegedly saying he would rather see "bodies pile high in their thousands" than impose a third national lockdown on the country.

The Daily Mail claimed that Johnson made the comment during a heated discussion in late October, when his government imposed a second lockdown to combat a surge in coronavirus cases. A third lockdown was ordered in January as infections shot up again, driven by a new, more contagious variant of the virus.

The Daily Mail didn't cite a source for the claim, but there has been a spate of leaks from Johnson's 10 Downing St. office, which are being investigated by government officials. Broadcasters BBC and ITV said they had also been told of the "bodies" remark.

Johnson said Monday that the allegation was "total, total rubbish."

Britain has spent much of the last year under restrictions on business and daily life as it tried to contain a COVID-19

outbreak that has left more than 127,000 people dead, the highest toll in Europe. Restrictions are gradually being eased alongside a mass-vaccination campaign that has given at least one dose of vaccine to half the U.K. population.

Cabinet Minister Michael Gove said Johnson had treated decisions about lockdowns extremely seriously.

"This is a prime minister who was in hospital himself in intensive care" with the virus last year, Gove said. "The idea that he would say any such thing I find incredible."

The claim is the latest in a swirl of allegations of cronyism and ethical breaches against Johnson and his Conservative government that have been piling up ahead of local and regional elections next week.

The prime minister's former top aide, Dominic Cummings, claimed last week that Johnson planned to get Conservative Party donors to fund the refurbishment of the prime minister's Downing Street apartment. Cummings, who left his job late last year, said he had told Johnson the plan

was "unethical, foolish, possibly illegal."

Johnson's office said the prime minister paid to renovate the apartment, where he lives with fiancée Carrie Symonds and their baby son Wilfred, though it did not say whether he had been lent the money for the work.

The Electoral Commission, which regulates political finances in the U.K., has said it is seeking answers from the Conservative Party over whether any sums should have been declared under the law on political donations.

Johnson has also denied doing anything wrong when he exchanged text messages with a wealthy industrialist and promised he would "fix" the tax rules for him.

The exchange occurred in March 2020 when Johnson was trying to encourage vacuum cleaner tycoon James Dyson to make ventilators for the hard-pressed National Health Service. Singapore-based Dyson sought assurances that his staff members would not have to pay extra taxes if they came to Britain to work on the project.

Good Housekeeping

Gretchen's table: Salad with green goddess dressing is heavenly

By GRETCHEN MCKAY
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
(TNS)

Don't you just feel like a good salad when the weather gets nice? When leaves start to appear on trees and our lawns suddenly look verdant, our dinner plates call out for a little green, too.

This salad is a great place to start. It doesn't require lots of ingredients, but it's full of flavor. The dressing is a vegan version of green goddess, named for its color. Chef Philip Roemer of San Francisco's Palace Hotel is said to have created this classic mayo-based dressing in the 1920s to honor actor George Arliss, who starred in William Archer's play "The Green Goddess."

Like so many dishes, green goddess has gone in and out of style over the years, but this fresh, herbal version with creamy avocado, lemon, rice vinegar and three different soft and leafy herbs is a keeper. This salad is especially apropos for Earth Day, when eating more plant-based dishes is encouraged. But it's great any day!

The original recipe calls for using 'Little Gem' romaine lettuce, but my grocery store was out. So I substituted a mix of torn romaine and butter lettuce. For herbs, think dill, tarragon and chives along with parsley, cilantro and mint. For some extra crunch, throw on a few seasoned croutons.

This dressing also can be served as a dip for raw veggies, as a base for coleslaw or as a jazzy sauce for potato or pasta salad.

LITTLE GEM SALAD WITH GREEN GODDESS DRESSING

PG tested

For dressing



(GRETCHEN MCKAY/POST-GAZETTE/TNS)

Salad with green goddess dressing is heavenly. Green goddess has gone in and out of style over the years, but this fresh, herbal version with creamy avocado, lemon, rice vinegar, and three different soft and leafy herbs is a keeper.

- 1/2 cup packed fresh cilantro leaves and stems
- 1/3 cup packed fresh mint leaves
- 1/2 cup packed fresh parsley leaves
- 1/4 cup water
- 2 large garlic cloves
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1 ripe avocado, halved
- 3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 3 tablespoons unseasoned rice vinegar
- 1/2 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/4 cup safflower or vegetable oil
- For salad
- 8 cups romaine or butter lettuce, torn, or mix of both
- 2 ripe avocados, sliced
- 5 radishes, sliced
- 1 spring onion, sliced
- Additional fresh herbs, for garnish
- Seasoned croutons, for garnish
- Make dressing: Add herbs,

water, garlic and salt to a blender and blend until ingredients are pureed. Next, add avocado, lemon juice and vinegar and blitz again.

With the blender running, slowly pour in oils. Season with salt and pepper. (Dressing can be made 1 day ahead, and refrigerated. It will keep for up to a week.)

Make salad: Rinse lettuce in cold water. Shake off excess and let dry cut side down on kitchen towels or paper towels. Wrap them up in the same towel, putting the two halves together, and chill in fridge until you are ready to serve, or up to 1 day.

Arrange lettuce on a platter and drizzle with dressing. Garnish with avocado, radishes, spring onions, fresh herbs and any flowering herbs from the garden. Add a handful of croutons for extra crunch, if desired.

Serves 6.

Design Recipes: The art of the area rug

By CATHY HOBBS
Tribune News Service
(TNS)

From shag, wool and viscose to hides, there are many options to choose from when it comes to area rugs. While the size of your room and location may dictate style and size, what are some of the options? Here's some insight into how to help make your space shine.

1. Look for quality over price.

Sometimes a more expensive rug won't necessarily outlast its less expensive counterpart.

2. Consider an indoor/outdoor option if on a budget.

Many of these rugs show well both indoors and out.

3. Choose easy-care materials in high traffic areas.

A rug's ability to repel stains is always a plus.

4. Shop for shag.

If you're looking for a fluffy and warm option for a space, shag is the way to go.

5. Look into a hide or low pile rug.

These are good options for smaller spaces.

6. Select a machine- or power-loomed option over

one that is hand-tufted or handmade if on a budget.

7. Consider synthetic fibers over cotton or wool if looking for a value option.

Not on a budget? Wool and silk are great options.

8. Integrate an interesting pattern or graphic into your space with the help of an area rug.

9. Consider sheepskin if you're looking for a way to use an area rug in small areas.

10. Experiment with rugs that have different levels of pile if you're looking for ways to add interest and texture.

Life & Style

Anthony Hopkins honors Chadwick Boseman after Oscar win

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Anthony Hopkins has honored the late Chadwick Boseman after winning the best actor Oscar, hailing his fellow performer as a man “taken from us far too early.”

The 83-year-old Hopkins took the award for his performance in “The Father,” becoming the oldest actor or actress to win an Oscar, edging out Christopher Plummer’s supporting-actor win at age 82 in the 2010 film “Beginners.”

Hopkins’ win was anticlimactic on a show where he wasn’t present to accept the trophy. Presenter Joaquin Phoenix’s reading of his name was the last dramatic moment of a most unusual ceremony.

Hours later, Hopkins made a belated acceptance speech in a short video message posted on Instagram, standing in front of the rolling green fields of



This combination of photos shows the Oscar nominees for best actor, from left, Riz Ahmed, “Sound of Metal”; Chadwick Boseman, “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom”; Anthony Hopkins, “The Father”; Gary Oldman, “Mank”; Steven Yeun, “Minari.” (AMAZON/NETFLIX/SONY PICTURES CLASSICS/NETFLIX/A24 VIA AP)

his native Wales.

“I want to pay tribute to Chadwick Boseman, who was taken from us far too early,” he said. “I really did not expect this, so I feel very privileged and honored.”

It is Hopkins’ first Oscar since he was victorious for playing Hannibal Lecter.

Despite his pedigree, Hop-

kins was a surprise winner of the Academy Award for best actor for his work on “The Father,” playing the role of a man fighting dementia.

Boseman had been expected to win the award, which, in a very rare move from the academy, was the last to be handed out this year instead of best picture.

Boseman was nominated for “Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom,” his final film before cancer claimed his life last August at age 43. The “Black Panther” star had been diagnosed with the disease four years earlier and kept it private as he continued working.

Hopkins has received four other Oscar nominations, including last year for his role as

Benedict in “The Two Popes”; as the eponymous president in “Nixon”; John Quincy Adams in the slavery drama “Amistad,” and a loyal butler in “The Remains of the Day.”

In a 2016 interview with The Associated Press, Hopkins said an acting career wasn’t in the plan.

“I wanted to be a musician, but I drifted into this business

by mistake,” he said. “I’m still looking over my shoulder thinking somebody will say, ‘Sorry, Tony, you’re in the wrong business.’”

Hopkins, who started in the theater but found it ill-fitting, focused on movie roles after getting his screen break playing Richard the Lionheart in “The Lion in Winter” in 1968.

In 2000, he became a U.S. citizen. He’d been knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in 1993, giving him the right to use “Sir” before his name.

In Associated Press writer Jake Coyle’s review of “The Father,” he called it riveting “to see Hopkins play all these ever-fluctuating turns of mood. ... For an actor so intense, so rigorously unsentimental, this is his Lear.”

Besides Boseman, the other nominees were Riz Ahmed, Gary Oldman and Steven Yeun.

Academy Awards television audience plummets to 9.85 million

NEW YORK (AP)—The Academy Awards television audience plunged to 9.85 million viewers on ABC, less than half of the Oscars’ previous low and continuing a startling trend of viewer tune out for awards shows.

The Nielsen company’s preliminary estimate shows that the audience who watched “Nomadland” win best picture on Sunday was 58% below last year’s tally of 23.6 million, which had set the previous record for least-watched Oscars telecast.

Following a year where movie theaters were mostly closed due to COVID-19, people were unexcited about or unfamiliar with movies they primarily

streamed at home. Producers tried to fight through pandemic fatigue with a hostless program and a small, socially-distanced audience that didn’t wear masks during the broadcast.

The event drew mixed reviews, and renewed questions about the types of movies the industry makes and wants to honor.

“It was agonizing for me to get through the show last night. It was pure torture,” said Marc Berman, a veteran television analyst who writes the “Programming Insider” newsletter, on Monday.

The Oscars do best in years when popular movies are up for awards—the telecast drew 55 million viewers when “Titanic”

won best picture in 1998—but no movie came close to that impact. As a result, viewers sat through “long acceptance speeches from people you don’t know in movies you never heard of,” Berman said.

To be fair, all awards shows have been in a ratings free-fall. Both the Golden Globes (6.9 million viewers) and Grammy Awards (9.2 million) had record low audiences this year.

The normal glitz, glamour and excitement of these programs have been muted by the pandemic. Instead, producers have had to deal with live audiences either limited or non-existent, presented to an audience already sick of seeing people on Zoom.

Judge tosses lawsuit of man who alleged Jackson molestation

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge on Monday dismissed the lawsuit of a man who alleged that Michael Jackson sexually abused him as a boy.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Mark A. Young granted the Jackson estate’s request to dismiss the suit brought in 2013 by Wade Robson. The judge said two Jackson entertainment corporations targeted by the lawsuit had no legal duty to protect Robson from Jackson.

“There is no evidence supporting plaintiff’s contention that defendants exercised control over Jackson,” the judge wrote. “The evidence further demonstrates that defendants

had no legal ability to control Jackson, because Jackson had complete and total ownership of the corporate defendants.”

The dismissal came after the judge dismissed a similar lawsuit in October by James Safechuck. Both men made their allegations in the HBO documentary “Leaving Neverland.”

Vince Finaldi, attorney for Robson and Safechuck, said the ruling has “fatal flaws” and will be appealed.

“If allowed to stand, the decision would set a dangerous precedent that would leave thousands of children working in the entertainment industry vulnerable to sexual abuse by persons in places of power,”

Finaldi said in a statement.

Robson, now a 38-year-old choreographer, met Jackson when he was 5 years old. He went on to appear in Jackson music videos and record music on his label.

His lawsuit alleged that Jackson molested him over a seven-year period, and that as Jackson’s employee, the two corporations Jackson had started had a duty to protect him the same way the Boy Scouts or a school would need to protect children from their leaders. But the judge found the corporations were merely legal entities that were controlled by Jackson, not organizations that could control him.

Special relationship ends when man’s wife returns

DEAR ABBY: I’ve been dating a married man for the last three years, and everything was great. We were attached at the hip and inseparable. I thought we had something special going.

His wife abandoned him and their two children for more than a year, and he didn’t know anything about raising kids, so I stepped in to help. It was great. They were just like my own. I was finally happy. I had the life I wanted. He even met with a lawyer to get a divorce.

Suddenly he announced he’s letting her come back because she has nowhere to go. I am devastated. Ever since her return, she has made his life a living hell. He tells everyone—including her—how miserable he is, and she does the same thing.

Why won’t he get a divorce? Should I wait for him? Did he ever really love me?

LOVING LADY IN TEXAS

DEAR LOVING LADY: There could be any number of reasons why he won’t divorce his wife. He may feel that, miserable as he is, a divorce would be too expensive. Or he may be trying to keep the family together “for the sake of the kids.” Or he may even love her.

That she is making his life a “living hell” is a problem of his own making. Please, for the sake of your own mental health, quit making it yours. Did he ever really love you?

I can’t answer that and neither can you. He certainly isn’t acting like someone who loves you.

Gather your strength and jump off the treadmill. It’s time to go on with your life.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I are going to be first-time parents in a few months, and this will be the first grandchild on both sides of the family (and the first baby in almost 18 years). We are excited to share this experience with them. However, I have some concerns about after the baby is born.

I already deal with anxiety, and I have strict “rules” that I would like to be followed. For example, no kissing my baby’s face, no posting photos on social media, etc. How can I get my wishes across to my family without sounding like a control freak? I worry that they won’t respect them and say I’m overthinking everything. Any advice is appreciated.

FIRST-TIME PARENT IN NEW YORK

DEAR FIRST-TIME PARENT: Your life is in transition, and your concerns are understandable. Remember, YOU are the parent. If you prefer your baby not be smothered with kisses, you are within your rights to say so. However, as long as your relatives are not sick and wash their hands well before touching your newborn, there shouldn’t be a problem. After three months, your baby’s underdeveloped

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



immune system should be stronger.

If you haven’t already discussed this with your pediatrician, schedule an appointment. Not only will you find it educational, it may put some of your fears to rest.

As to your little one’s image being posted online, every family has their own comfort level. Explain your concerns, and if the grands don’t cooperate, make them surrender their cellphones when they visit.

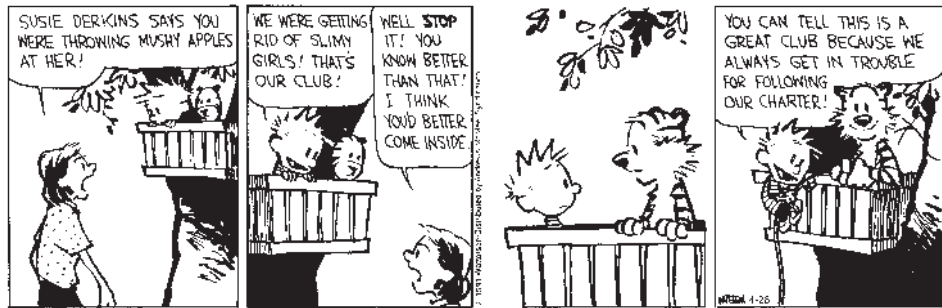
■ ■ ■

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order “How to Have a Lovely Wedding.” Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

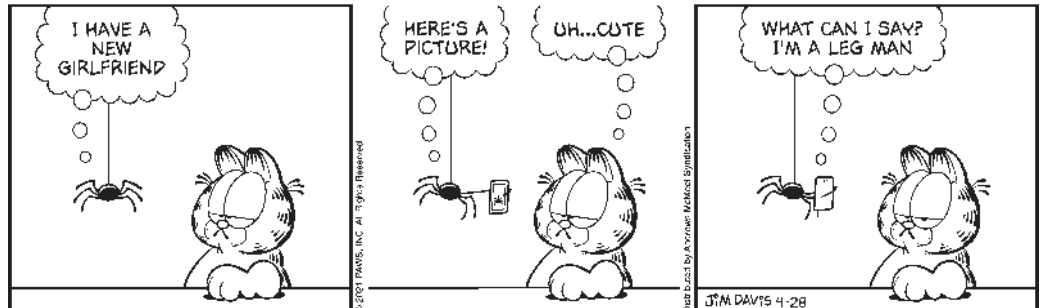
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



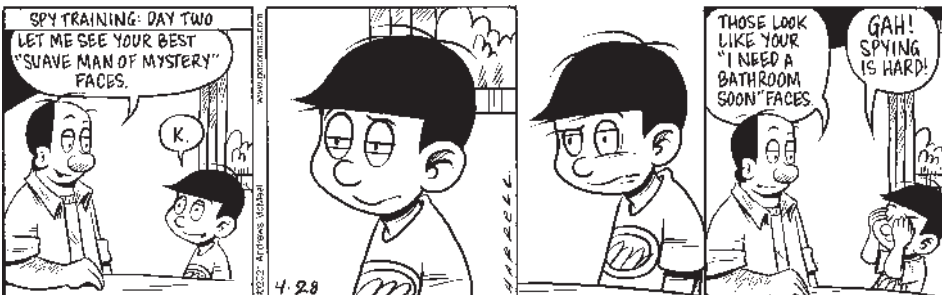
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



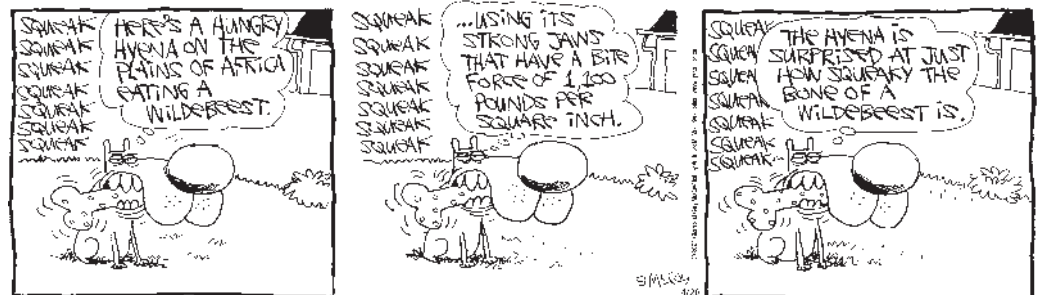
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Bowler, e.g.
4 Scratched (out)
8 Sidewalk eatery
12 Vegetable peeler brand
13 Zero, in tennis
14 Reunion attendee
15 Zodiac feline
16 Cocktail lounges with music
18 God, in Islam
20 —la-la
21 Beer ingredient
24 Apathetic
28 Seedy watering holes
32 Winter blanket
33 Numerical prefix
34 Justice Samuel
36 Scot's refusal
37 Words to a backstabber
39 Reception amenities

DOWN

1 Spanish greeting
2 Skater's leap
3 Implement
4 "Wicked" role played by Idina Menzel
5 Japanese pond carp
6 Actress Longoria
7 Fender bender
8 Plotting groups
9 Pie — mode
10 Bear hair river
11 German
17 Sphere
19 Soul, to Sartre
22 Film composer Schiffrin
23 Journeys
25 Author Quindlen
26 Fly high
27 Woolly moms
28 Hamilton-Burr event
29 Division word
30 Corleone patriarch
31 Leftovers recipe
35 Jackie's Ari
38 Outcome briefly
40 Cookout, briefly
42 — Lanka
45 Competent
47 Strike callers
48 Pulitzer winner James
49 "Phooey!"
50 Pouch
51 Show to a seat, slangily
52 Fr. holy woman
53 Goal
54 Slowing, in music (Abbr.)

Solution time: 23 mins.

W	A	N	D	A	I	D	F	I	A	M
A	I	O	F	C	M	O	N	E	R	F
H	I	R	E	C	I	A	N	D	I	F
D	E	E	M	I	D	E	A	L		
L	S	H	E	R	A	N	O	N		
G	L	A	D	H	E	D	G	E	H	O
L	A	S	A	U	R	A	S	U	K	E
I	M	H	U	N	G	R	Y	S	N	I
H	M	C	S	A	N	T	F	S		
C	R	O	A	T	E	S	S	O		
F	A	U	H	G	I	I	H	O	P	E
O	P	S	F	I	D	G	F	T	I	P
S	T	F	R	O	O	D	V	E	A	S

Yesterday's answer 4-28

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jessica Alba, 40; Penelope Cruz, 47; Jay Leno, 71; Ann-Margret, 80.

Happy Birthday: Moderation, discipline and a simple lifestyle are required if you want to aspire to reach your goals. Stick to schedules, set boundaries and have a strategy in place that can withstand any outside interference you encounter. Being organized will help you finish what you start and encourage interesting partnerships with people who bring out the best in you. Strive for success. Your numbers are 8, 19, 21, 28, 32, 39, 48.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Too much of anything will lead to trouble. Over-spending or taking a risk emotionally, financially or physically will leave you in a vulnerable position. Choose to take the path that adds to your stability, not your detriment. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Partnerships will require patience and understanding. Don't give in to someone who is taking advantage of you. Set personal goals and stick to them. Do your own thing, be unique and let your intuition lead the way. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Stay focused on your objective, and finish what you start. Don't spare any detail when dealing with administrative matters. It's essential to have your facts straight if you want to seal a deal. Preparation will help you avoid disappointment. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Be careful, but don't forego an important meeting. If you are worried, set up a virtual meeting to avoid risk. Be assertive and innovative; you will

dominate a conversation that can be life-changing. Put your energy where it counts. *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't overdo it or make promises you don't want to keep. Focus on personal gains, physical fitness and nurturing meaningful relationships. Don't scoff if someone makes a change. Do your own thing, and you'll meet someone who shares your interest. *****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Problems will mount if you or someone else exaggerates. Keep things in perspective and ask questions. Once you have all the facts, it will be easy to make a decision. A little romance will help you unwind and change your mindset. **

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Share only what's necessary. Discipline will help you reach your goal and keep you on your toes when faced with opposition or temptation. Don't let anger set in when success will result in satisfaction. Do what you do best, and don't look back. ****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): It's time to settle the differences or a misunderstanding with someone in a personal or professional partnership with you. Once you clear up matters, you'll know what to do next. You'll surprise everyone with your decision. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Emotions will be difficult to control. You'll have regrets if you act on an assumption. Don't lower your standards for someone who mistreats you. Be smart, get the facts and do what's necessary. Protect your reputation and

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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emotional well-being. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): An offer will disappoint you. Before you agree to something, make sure you have all the facts and details necessary to make an accurate decision. It's easier to make adjustments before you commit than after. Stay within budget when making home improvements. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Stick to your plan and make your intentions clear. Emotions will surface if you or someone close to you overreacts or exaggerates. Choose your words wisely, and concentrate on being the best you can be. Choose peace over discord. **

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): How you earn your living will face unexpected changes. Don't rule out heading in a different direction. A new challenge will give you something to look forward and lift your spirits. Celebrate new beginnings with someone you love. *****

Birthday Baby: You are passionate, unique and enthusiastic. You are charming and responsible. ☺: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☺☺: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☺☺☺: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☺☺☺☺: Aim high; start new projects. ☺☺☺☺☺: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

		8	5				4	9		
7				8		3				5
3				4		1				7
9				3		2				6
	5	6	1				7	3	2	
				5						9
				9						8
2				7		4				1
	7	9					3	6		

Difficulty Level ★★★

4/28

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

4	5	2	9	7	6	3	1	8
8	1	7	2	5	3	6	9	4
3	9	6	8	1	4	5	7	2
2	7	8	6	3	9	1	4	5
9	4	3	5	8	1	2	6	7
1	6	5	7	4	2	9	8	3
6	8	9	3	2	7	4	5	1
7	3	4	1	6	5	8	2	9
5	2	1	4	9	8	7	3	6

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

FISHING RODS

Solution: 7 letters

T E R I V E R T P S S A L G G
T E L D A E H R E V O A A B N
E N L D P B A O N P S A L C I
L E E E N C U U S T I A B T H
B I E M S A O T S G N I R S S
M K C A T C H T T K K L H A I
E S A C E S O G B S E O B C F
S U L A E R U P B V R F O L D
S M N B A S S J I E S H A H C
A L U G N S R W D C C O T A R
C T E A O E S S G A O P N S E
T E C R B A S R E B B O B U E
I K D I R T I B M N E L N R L
O A F G A A C A P S I E U F S
N L D O C K B T R O L L I N G

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4/28

Action, Adjustment, Assemble, Baits, Bamboo, Barrels, Bass, Beach, Blank, Boat, Bobbers, Bridge, Butts, Canoe, Caps, Carbon, Carp, Case, Cast, Catch, Clasp, Dirt, Dock, Fiber, Fishing, Fold, Glass, Handle, Hook, Keeper, Lake, Lines, Lure, Muskie, Ocean, Overhead, Pole, Reels, Rings, River, Salts, Seat, Shore, Sinkers, Snack, Storage, Surf, Swivel, Telescopic, Trolling, Trout, Tube

Yesterday's Answer: Master

Treasures 24 through 41 can be purchased online at
www.WonderWordBooks.com.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Booker, Suns end Knicks' 9-game win streak, 118-110



NEW YORK (AP)—Devin Booker scored 33 points and the Phoenix Suns capped a grueling road trip with a 118-110 victory Monday night that snapped the New York Knicks' nine-game winning streak.

Chris Paul scored the final seven Phoenix points as the Suns held on to finish 3-2 on their trip that included visits to the top four teams in the Eastern Conference.

Mikal Bridges added 21 points, Paul had 20 and Cameron Johnson hit three 3-pointers in the final period after the game was tied at 87 through three.

Derrick Rose had 22 points, six rebounds and six assists for the Knicks, who were on their longest winning streak since a 13-game run late in the 2012-13 season. Julius Randle scored 18 points but was off his form from most of the streak, shooting just 6 for 17 with six rebounds and four assists.



Phoenix Suns' Devin Booker reacts after no call was made on his shot in the third quarter of an NBA basketball game against the New York Knicks, Monday, April 26, 2021, in New York.

consecutive defeats Tuesday at Boston.

The Sixers had an NBA-season high 22 steals. Tobias Harris had four.

Ty Jerome led the Thunder with 22 points.

Pistons 100, Hawks 86

In Detroit, Jerami Grant and Frank Jackson scored 18 points apiece to lift Detroit over Atlanta.

The Hawks shot just 39% from the field and 4 of 27 from 3-point range. It was their lowest-scoring game of the season.

There was one bright note for Atlanta: Kris Dunn made his first appearance of the season following right ankle surgery.

Bogdan Bogdanovic led Atlanta with 17 points. Kevin Huerter added 15 and John Collins contributed 14. Clint Capela had 12 points and 15 rebounds.

Raptors 112, Cavaliers 96

In Tampa, Fla., Pascal Siakam scored 25 points, rookie Malachi Flynn added 18 and Toronto pulled away in the second half to beat depleted Cleveland.

Kyle Lowry contributed nine points, five rebounds and 10 assists for the Raptors, who have won five of six.

Isaac Okoro led Cleveland with 20 points. Jared Allen had 15 points and Darius Garland had 13 points and 10 assists for the Cavaliers, who have lost five of six.

The Cavaliers played with the same starting lineup they used in Sunday night's 119-110 loss at Washington, but without the first four players who came off their bench in that game.

Kings 113, Mavericks 106

In Sacramento, Calif., Tyrese Haliburton had 14 points and 10 assists in his second straight start in place of leading scorer De'Aaron Fox, and Sacramento beat Dallas.

Richaun Holmes added 24 points for Sacramento in his second game back after sitting out five with a strained hamstring. Harrison Barnes had 19 points, and Buddy Hield scored 16 including a clutch 3-pointer late in the fourth quarter.

Fox, the Kings point guard, is in the NBA's health and safety protocols and could miss up to two weeks.

Luka Doncic had 24 points, eight assists and seven rebounds for Dallas, which had won three straight including back-to-back victories over the Lakers.

Lakers 114, Magic 103

In Orlando, Fla., Dennis Schröder scored 13 of his 21 points in the fourth quarter, Anthony Davis added 18 points and eight rebounds and Los Angeles rallied past Orlando.

Trailing 80-79 following a

sluggish third quarter, the Lakers' offense came alive late to end their losing streak at three games. LA outscored Orlando 35-23 in the fourth period, improving to 19-12 on the road and 9-20 when trailing after three quarters.

Montrezl Harrell scored 18 points off the bench for the

Lakers, who shot 54% from the floor and hit 11 3-pointers. Andre Drummond chipped in 13 points and 11 rebounds for Los Angeles.

Chuma Okeke scored 18 points and converted a thunderous dunk over Drummond in the first quarter. Gary Harris scored 17 for the Magic, who have lost six straight and 25 of 30.

Spurs 146, Wizards 143, OT

In Washington, DeMar DeRozan had 37 points and 10 assists, and San Antonio ended Washington's season-best eight-game winning streak.

DeRozan scored nine of his points in the fourth quarter and overtime. Neither team led by more than three points after DeRozan's jumper pulled the Spurs within 118-115 with 5:13 left in the fourth.

Bradley Beal had 45 points for the Wizards, who fell one victory short of matching the franchise's best streak.

Dejounte Murray had 25 points and a career-high 17 rebounds. Keldon Johnson had 21 points and Rudy Gay scored 17 for the Spurs, who have won three straight and five of six.

Washington's Russell Westbrook had his league leading 29th triple-double of the season—and 15th in his last 18 games—with 22 points, 13 rebounds and 14 assists.

Timberwolves 105, Jazz 104

In Minneapolis, D'Angelo Russell had a season-high seven 3-pointers and scored 27 points, and Karl-Anthony Towns had 21 points and 11 rebounds as Minnesota rallied to beat Utah.

Mike Conley gave Utah a 104-103 lead with 6.4 seconds left, but Ricky Rubio found

Russell for a layup on the ensuing possession. Conley then lost the ball in a scramble as time expired.

Minnesota, which started the day tied for the second-fewest wins in the NBA, handed the league-leading Jazz another loss. The Timberwolves went 3-0 against Utah this season.

Anthony Edwards added 14 points for Minnesota, which has won four of its last six games.

Conley had 26 points and Rudy Gobert added 18 points for Utah. The Jazz, playing their fifth straight game without leading scorer Donovan Mitchell, have lost three of five.

Pelicans 120, Clippers 103

In Los Angeles, Zion Williamson scored 23 points on an array of power moves, spinning dribbles and even a 3-pointer, and New Orleans beat Los Angeles.

Lonzo Ball had 18 points, nine rebounds, seven assists and two steals for New Orleans, which entered the night 4 1/2 games out of the final Western Conference play-in spot.

Terance Mann scored 17 points and DeMarcus Cousins added 16 points, 11 rebounds and two blocked shots for the Clippers, who were without Kawhi Leonard (foot) for a fourth straight game.

New Orleans led by double digits for nearly the entire second half and by as many as 25.

Bulls 110, Heat 102

In Miami, Nikola Vucevic scored 24 points, Daniel Theis added 23 and Chicago moved closer to the last play-in spot in the Eastern Conference by beating Miami. Coby White added 17 points for the Bulls, who finished the game on a 36-20 run and outrebounded Miami 51-

34. Theis had 12 rebounds and Vucevic 11 for Chicago.

Jimmy Butler scored 33 points and Bam Adebayo added 23 for Miami, which missed a chance to move into the No. 6 spot in the East and give coach Erik Spoelstra his 600th career regular-season win. Trevor Ariza added 18 points for the Heat.

The Heat remained No. 7, a half-game behind Boston for the final guaranteed play-off spot in the East. Chicago moved within one game of No. 10 Washington.

Nuggets 120, Grizzlies 96

In Denver, Michael Porter Jr. erupted for 31 points courtesy of a torrid shooting night, Paul Millsap added nine of his 12 points in the fourth quarter and short-handed Denver beat Memphis.

Nikola Jokic finished with 24 points and 15 rebounds for his league-leading 53rd double-double to help the Nuggets knock off Memphis for a sixth straight time at home.

Denver pulled away early in the fourth quarter on the strength of a 12-0 run. From there, the Nuggets coasted to their sixth win in seven games.

Ja Morant added 27 points to lead the Grizzlies, who finished a seven-game trip with a 4-3 mark.

76ers 121, Thunder 90

In Philadelphia, Joel Embiid scored 21 points, Ben Simmons had 12 in his return to the lineup and Philadelphia sent Oklahoma City to its franchise record-tying 14th straight loss.

The Thunder lost 14 straight games in their first season in Oklahoma City in 2008-09 and can set the team mark for

NBA BRIEFS

Houston's Wall has hamstring injury that could end season

HOUSTON (AP)—Houston Rockets guard John Wall is likely to miss the rest of the season with strained right hamstring. Wall was injured on Friday against the Los Angeles Clippers. He had an MRI on Monday and was diagnosed with the injury by Dr. Steven Flores. His injury is yet another blow in a difficult season for the Rockets, who at 15-46 have become the NBA's worst team since the trade of superstar James Harden. Houston has 11 games remaining. Wall has dealt with various injuries this season and missed 21 games in his return after missing all of last season following Achilles tendon surgery. When healthy, he's been one of the team's top players, averaging 20.6 points and 6.9 assists in 40 games. The Rockets traded Russell Westbrook to Washington for Wall and a future first-round pick in December. Wall, the No. 1 overall pick out of Kentucky in the 2010 draft, spent a decade with the Wizards, making the All-Star game five times and helping the team to the playoffs four times.

Magic's Cannady has surgery to repair dislocated right ankle

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Devin Cannady of the Orlando Magic underwent surgery on Monday to clean out his dislocated right ankle, though tests showed he did not fracture it as originally feared. A series of exams including X-rays, a CT scan and MRI showed that Cannady's bones and cartilage remained intact, the Magic said. Cannady dislocated the ankle during Sunday night's game against Indiana, a gruesome injury after which he needed to be removed from the court on a stretcher. Magic teammate Mo Bamba removed his own jersey and draped it over Cannady's ankle as his teammate lay on the court writhing in pain, an effort to shield the scene from the view of others — Cannady included. "I just did what he would probably do for me," Bamba said. "I didn't want him to see it." Cannady will not play again this season. The Magic said a plaster splint was applied to the ankle on Monday and that the former Princeton guard is expected to make a full recovery. Cannady appeared in eight games for Orlando this season, averaging 4.3 points. He was the MVP of this season's G League playoffs, after helping the Orlando-affiliated Lakeland Magic to that league's championship.

Luplow hits 2-run homer in 10th, Indians top Twins, 5-3



CLEVELAND (AP)—Jordan Luplow hit a two-run homer in the 10th inning off Alex Colomé, giving the Cleveland Indians a 5-3 victory over the Minnesota Twins in their series opener Monday night.

Luplow's second career game-ending homer was a leadoff shot that easily cleared the wall in left field, scoring free runner César Hernández from second base. Minnesota fell to 0-5 in extra-inning games and has the second-worst record in the American League.

Emmanuel Clase (2-1) worked one perfect inning for the win, helping Cleveland to its second straight victory.

Luplow was the only batter faced by Colomé (1-3).

"It definitely feels good when you get to admire it for a little bit," Luplow said, smiling. "Honestly, I was just trying to put the ball in play and give the team a chance to win. The scene with all my teammates at home plate was something that I'll never forget."

It was the first of 19 meetings this season between teams that have combined to win the last five AL Central titles. Minnesota is the two-time defending champion.

Luis Arraez had given the Twins a 3-2 lead in the eighth when he singled home Jake Cave with two outs, but José Ramírez answered in the bottom half with a homer off Tyler Duffey that hooked just inside the foul pole in right.

"What José did was definitely a fire-starter, for sure," Luplow said.

José Berrios of Minnesota worked 5 2/3 innings, permitting two runs and five hits, but was forced to leave the game after an inadvertent second mound visit by manager Rocco Baldelli.

Baldelli said he didn't realize pitching coach Wes Johnson had already visited the right-hander in the sixth, and accepted full blame for the mistake.

"That's on me and obviously, not a great moment," Baldelli said. "I wanted to talk to José and give him the opportunity to keep pitching, but I was locked in on something else with the team before I went out."

Cleveland starter Zach Plesac allowed three runs in a season-high 7 2/3 innings, striking out four. Bryan Shaw followed and retired all four batters he faced.

"A lot of good things had to happen tonight or we don't win that game," Indians manager Terry Francona said. "Because Zach and Bryan kept them in check, every run was important."

Minnesota went in front 2-0 on a solo homer by Brent Rooker in the second and a sacrifice fly by Jorge Polanco in the fourth.

Eddie Rosario doubled home Hernández with two outs in the sixth, then came around on Franmil Reyes' single to pull Cleveland even at 2. Rosario spent his first six seasons with the Twins before signing with the Indians on Feb. 4.

"The only difference so far is it's been colder than I expected in Cleveland," he said.



Cleveland Indians' Jordan Luplow watches his two-run home run off Minnesota Twins relief pitcher Alex Colomé during the tenth inning of a baseball game in Cleveland, Monday, April 26, 2021.

Josh Naylor tied his career high with three hits and Rosario had two. Indians catcher Roberto Pérez stole his first base since Aug. 11, 2018.

Alex Kirilloff doubled for his first major league hit for the Twins, who reinstated shortstop Andrelton Simmons from the COVID-19 injured list.

Angels 9, Rangers 4

In Arlington, Texas, Shohei Ohtani struck out nine after a shaky first inning on the mound, and also scored three runs and drove in two in a start like none since Babe Ruth 100 years earlier, as Los Angeles beat Texas.

A day after hitting his seventh homer to tie for the major league lead, Ohtani (1-0) became the first home run leader to be the starting pitcher for a game since Ruth for the New York Yankees against Detroit on June 13, 1921. It was the second time this season Ohtani pitched and batted second.

The Japanese right-hander gave up four runs in the first inning before retiring 14 of the last 15 batters he faced, with all his strikeouts coming during that span.

Ohtani walked and scored in the first, then threw 28 pitches in the bottom of the inning, including two walks, a hit batsman and a wild pitch. But the game was tied at 4 in the second after Ohtani hit a two-run double and scored on Mike Trout's single.

Justin Upton and Albert Pujols put the Angels ahead to stay with back-to-back homers to begin the third off starter Jordan Lyles (1-2), who allowed seven runs and 10 hits in 2 2/3 innings. José Iglesias later went deep off Hyeon-Jong Yang, the lefty from South Korea making his big league debut.

Trout also had an RBI double among his four hits in his return to the lineup to raise his average to .426. He missed three games last weekend in Houston because of a bruised left elbow after getting hit by a pitch.

Texas went ahead on Nate Lowe's sixth homer, a three-run shot that gave him an MLB best-matching 21 RBIs.

Astros 5, Mariners 2

In Houston, Jose Altuve had three hits and two RBIs in his return to the lineup after testing positive for COVID-19, leading Houston over Seattle.

Yordan Alvarez and Yuli Gurriel both had three hits and drove in a run as the Astros won for the fourth time in five games after losing their previous three.

José Urquidy (1-2) yielded two runs in six innings and Ryan Pressly worked a scoreless ninth for his second save.

The Mariners got solo homers from Kyle Lewis and Kyle Seager. Justus Sheffield (1-2) allowed a career-high 12 hits with five runs — four earned — in 5 1/3 innings.

Braves 8, Cubs 7

In Atlanta, Freddie Freeman hit a three-run homer and Atlanta woke up offensively after a grim doubleheader.

The Braves were coming off two shutout losses to Arizona the previous afternoon — managing just a single hit, by Freeman, over 14 innings. Madison Bumgarner held Atlanta without a hit in his seven-inning victory, though it did not qualify as an official no-hitter.

Atlanta scored four times in the first inning. Chicago tied it on Kris Bryant's sixth career grand slam, a shot off Charlie Morton (2-

1) in the third.

Freeman broke a 5-all tie with a mammoth, two-out shot of his own, connecting in the fifth against Brandon Workman (0-2).

Will Smith worked around a walk in the ninth for his fifth save.

Phillies 2, Cardinals 1

In St. Louis, Zack Wheeler took a one-hit shutout into the ninth inning and Rhys Hoskins homered twice as Philadelphia beat St. Louis.

Hoskins' seventh career multi-homer game and second this season helped the Phillies improve to 3-1 against the Cardinals.

Wheeler (2-2) struck out nine and edged Adam Wainwright in a classic pitchers' duel that took just 2 hours, 22 minutes.

Wheeler retired his first 14 batters until Paul DeJong's opposite-field single in the fifth. The right-hander was lifted after issuing a leadoff walk to Matt Carpenter in the ninth on his 114th pitch. Héctor Neris got the save after Carpenter scored on a groundout by Dylan Carlson.

Wainwright (0-3) tossed a complete game on 107 pitches, allowing six hits and striking out eight as the Cardinals' winning streak was snapped at three.

Reds 5, Dodgers 3, 10 innings

In Los Angeles, Jesse Winker's two-run homer in the 10th inning sent Cincinnati past Los Angeles to snap a seven-game losing streak.

Winker led off the 10th by taking Kenley Jansen (0-1) deep with the free runner on second base. The Reds lead the majors with 34 home runs, including five by Winker, who tops the National League with a .382 batting average.

Winker had two hits to extend his hitting streak to 11 games, the longest active run in the majors.

Tejay Antone (1-0) worked three hitless innings.

Los Angeles, which lost in extra innings for the second straight night, has dropped five of its last seven after starting the season 13-3.

Corey Seager tied it 3-all with a two-run homer off Amir Garrett in the seventh.

Marlins 8, Brewers 0

In Milwaukee, Trevor Rogers pitched six spotless innings and Corey Dickerson finished a triple shy of the cycle in Miami's win over Milwaukee.

Dickerson drove in three runs, two against Brewers starter Corbin Burnes (2-2), who had only allowed one earned run over four outings this season.

Since giving up that one run — a homer by Twins outfielder Byron Buxton on April 3 — Burnes had tossed 18 scoreless innings, striking out 29 without walking a batter while allowing a total of seven hits.

He struck out nine this time, giving him 49 for the season, and still hasn't issued a walk in 29 1/3 innings. He needs three more strikeouts without a walk his next time out to break a record set in 1893.

Rogers (3-1) struck out seven and walked none.

Royals 3, Tigers 2

In Detroit, Jarrod Dyson doubled and scored the go-ahead run in the fifth inning and Kansas City completed a four-game sweep on the road for the first time since 1999.

The surprising Royals have won a season-high five straight and own the best record in the American League at 14-7.

Detroit (7-16) has the worst record in the majors after losing 10 of its last 11 games and is off to its worst start since 2003.

Brad Keller (2-2) went six innings and Josh Staumont got his second save. Carlos Santana homered off Spencer Turnbull (1-1).

Orioles 4, Yankees 2

In Baltimore, Cedric Mullins hit two home runs and a double, Matt Harvey pitched six impressive innings and Baltimore moved one game ahead of last-place New York in the AL East.

Harvey (2-1) won consecutive starts for the first time since winning four in a row with Cincinnati in 2018. He allowed one run and three hits, striking out five and walking three. César Valdez earned a four-out save.

Deivi García (0-1) was recalled from the Yankees' alternate training site to make the start. The 21-year-old right-hander allowed two runs and three hits over four innings and was sent back down after the game.

Athletics 2, Rays 1

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Sean Murphy homered, Sean Manaea got some key defensive help and Oakland bounced back a day after its 13-game winning streak ended.

After Matt Chapman drew a two-out walk from Rich Hill (1-1) in the fourth inning, Murphy homered. Hill struck out 10 in six innings.

Manaea (3-1) threw 100 pitches over five innings, giving up one run and four hits.

Yusmeiro Petit went two perfect innings, Jake Diekman worked out of a second-and-third, one-out jam in the eighth and Lou Trivino closed for his third save.

Giants 12, Rockies 0

In San Francisco, Anthony DeSclafani pitched a three-hitter, Evan Longoria had a two-run double and an RBI single after sitting out three games with a sore left hamstring, and San Francisco routed Colorado.

Mauricio Dubón drove in four runs and Buster Posey hit a two-run homer in the sixth inning that gave DeSclafani (2-0) all the run support he needed and then some. The right-hander struck out nine and walked one as the Giants took over the major league ERA lead at 2.81 in a game that took just 2 hours, 27 minutes.

DeSclafani's only other complete game in 130 major league starts was a four-hit shutout for Cincinnati at Arizona in August 2016.

Austin Gomber (1-3) was tagged for nine runs and seven hits in 1 2/3 innings as the Rockies dropped to 0-7 on the road. Earlier in the day, the team announced seventh-year general manager Jeff Bridich is stepping down.

GM: Packers committed to Rodgers for 'foreseeable future'

By STEVE MEGARGEE
AP SPORTS WRITER



Green Bay Packers general manager Brian Gutekunst says the team remains committed to quarterback Aaron Rodgers "for the foreseeable future" one year after trading up in the first round to draft the three-time MVP's potential successor.

"Aaron's our guy," Gutekunst said Monday in his pre-draft Zoom session with reporters. "He's going to be our quarterback for the foreseeable future. We're excited about kind of the things we're going to try to accomplish here over the next couple years."

The Packers sent the Miami Dolphins the No. 30 overall

selection and a fourth-round pick in last year's draft to move up to the No. 26 spot and take Utah State quarterback Jordan Love. Rodgers acknowledged later the move took him by surprise and complicated his hopes of finishing his career in Green Bay.

Rodgers, 37, responded by throwing an NFL-leading 48 touchdown passes last season and earned his third MVP award while helping the Packers reach the NFC championship game.

Late last season, Rodgers referred to his future as a "beautiful mystery." In his news conference after the NFC championship game loss to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Rodgers said "there's a lot of guys' futures that are uncertain, myself included." Gutekunst said shortly after-



AP
In this Jan. 16, 2021, file photo, Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers (12) runs during an NFL divisional playoff football game against the Los Angeles Rams in Green Bay, Wis.

ward that the Packers intended to keep Rodgers beyond the 2021 season.

But the Packers haven't restructured Rodgers' contract, a move that could show their commitment to him beyond the

upcoming season. Rodgers has three years remaining on the four-year, \$134 million extension he signed in August 2018.

The way Rodgers' contract is currently structured, the Packers could clear about \$22 million in

cap space by moving on from him after the 2021 season.

Without getting into specifics, Rodgers noted that Rodgers' contract situation is one of "a lot of different things" the Packers have discussed as they deal with their salary cap constraints.

Green Bay's salary cap issues explain why long snapper

Joe Fortunato is the only free agent the Packers have signed this offseason, though they did agree to lucrative long-term deals with All-Pro offensive tackle David Bakhtiari, defensive tackle Kenny Clark and running back Aaron Jones over the past year before those three players could enter the free-agent market.

ROMMEL

From Page 20

■ Women's 40 and below: first Shawanna Brenfleck and second Kathy Ruzsala.

■ Women's 40-44: first Aya-no Bramton, second Yuki Rechucher, third Sheila Mabutas.

■ Men's mountain bike: first Butch Sublemente, second Hernand Cristobal, third Mike Hokage.

■ Men's mountain bike 40 below: first Ariel Moses, second Napoleon Solis, third placed was Rene Avila

■ Men's mountain bike

40-44: Ferdz Licayan was the sole biker.

■ Men's mountain bike 45-49: first Nelson Pagaduan, second Rosalio Quintos, third Nicolas Angelo.

■ Men's mountain bike 50-54: first Nestor Abing, second Jojo Valencia, third Ronald Villafria.

■ Men's mountain bike 55-59: first Norlo Jacosalem, second Feoro Derexes, third Romy Ampit.

■ Men's mountain bike 60 and above: first Ponce Corotam, second Bobay Aguilar, third Rey Tentia.

TSUNAMI

From Page 20

accept our swimmers to participate in their meet," he said.

So far, there are already five boys swimmers on the shortlist to Taipei, namely Juhn Teno-rio, Jinnosuke Suzuki, Isaiah Aleksenko, Kean Pajarillaga, and Kouki Watanabe. The girls side is also made up of five candidates, among them Asaka Litulumar, Aoi Braxton, Shoko

Litulumar, Maria Batallones, and Julia Jinang.

"These swimmers are just candidates. If the meet in Taipei will be an age group meet, younger swimmers will be asked to go, too. I will never select low practice attendance swimmers or no hard workers in their regular practice," said Kimura.

Tsunami Saipan has seven group levels with the top group training six times a week and the beginners' group twice a week

at a private swimming pool.

Aside from the envisioned meet in Taiwan's capital, the Tsunami Saipan coach also wants his swimmers to take part in competitions around Micronesia.

"The Taipei meet is the first choice for us. After Taipei, we may go to Guam, Palau, or Pohnpei to participate in swim meets... Guam is getting better. They have carried out vaccinations to 65% of the population already. Maybe, in the

summer we will join a meet in Guam. Palau is a COVID-19-free country. If they reopen tourism, they will surely hold a swim competition."

When it comes to vaccinations, Kimura said Tsunami Swimmers who are eligible for the vaccine have gotten their shots. "Our swimmers are getting their COVID-19 vaccine shot a little by a little. Already three of our senior swimmers have been vaccinated."

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Brooklyn	41	20	.672	—
Philadelphia	40	21	.656	1
New York	34	28	.548	7½
Boston	32	29	.525	9
Toronto	26	35	.426	15

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	34	28	.548	—
Miami	32	30	.516	2
Charlotte	30	30	.500	3
Washington	27	34	.443	6½
Orlando	18	43	.295	15½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	37	23	.617	—
Indiana	29	31	.483	8
Chicago	26	35	.426	11½
Cleveland	21	40	.344	16½
Detroit	19	43	.306	19

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	33	27	.550	—
Memphis	31	29	.517	2
San Antonio	31	29	.517	2
New Orleans	27	34	.443	6½
Houston	15	46	.246	18½

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Utah	44	17	.721	—
Denver	40	21	.656	4
Portland	32	28	.533	11½
Oklahoma City	20	41	.328	24
Minnesota	18	44	.290	26½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	43	18	.705	—
L.A. Clippers	43	20	.683	1
L.A. Lakers	36	25	.590	7
Golden State	31	30	.508	12
Sacramento	25	36	.410	18

x-clinched playoff spot

MLB STANDINGS

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	14	9	.609	—
Tampa Bay	11	12	.478	3
Toronto	10	11	.476	3
Baltimore	10	12	.455	3½
New York	9	13	.409	4½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Kansas City	14	7	.667	—
Chicago	12	9	.571	2
Cleveland	10	11	.476	4
Minnesota	7	14	.333	7
Detroit	7	16	.304	8

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	15	8	.652	—
Seattle	13	10	.565	2
Los Angeles	11	10	.524	3
Houston	11	11	.500	3½
Texas	9	14	.391	6

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	9	8	.529	—
Philadelphia	11	11	.500	½
Atlanta	10	12	.455	1½
Miami	10	12	.455	1½
Washington	8	11	.421	2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	13	9	.591	—
Pittsburgh	11	11	.500	2
St. Louis	11	11	.500	2
Chicago	10	12	.455	3
Cincinnati	10	12	.455	3

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	15	8	.652	—
San Francisco	15	8	.652	—
San Diego	13	11	.542	2½
Arizona	11	11	.500	3½
Colorado	8	14	.364	6½

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RYU

From Page 20

In the battle for third, Heo and Lee faced off with Kang and Wang with the former prevailing with a 6-4, 6-1 victory.

Later, in the boys U12 doubles division, after a heated battle between Yutaka Kadokura and Si Woo Lee and Ryan Choi and Emmon Tang, the former claimed the title with a 7-4, 6-4 victory.

The winning duo first advanced to the semifinals after receiving a bye in the quarterfinals. Later in the semis, the duo took an easy 6-0, 6-1 victory over Jihun Park and Landon Pudney who entered the Final Four after beating Quido Lucas Jambor and Nathan Su, 6-4, 6-4.

In the bottom half of the draw, runner-up Choi and Tang struggled in their battle against Henry and Stephen Yeom, losing the first set 1-6, before stealing the win in the final two sets, 6-4, 10-8. In the semis, the quarterfinalists faced Ian Chae and Ki Won Lee in another close match, 7-5, 4-6, 10-3.

Despite losing their semis match, Chae and Lee prevailed in the battle for third against Park and Pudney with a 6-2, 7-6(5) victory.

In the boys U14 doubles di-

vision, Wataru Kadokura and June Yu topped the round-robin tournament after winning their match against Simon Tang and Nesson Wessel, 7-5, 6-4, followed by another easy victory against Henry Choi and Taher Shakir, 6-3, 6-0.

Tang and Wessel landed second place with their only loss against the eventual champs. The duo beat Choi and Shakir with a 6-4, 6-1 victory.

Meanwhile in the boys U10 singles division, Quido Jambor prevailed after sweeping all his matches in the round robin tournament. Jambor defeated his first competitor Jin Ho Park, 6-1, before moving on to face Michael Joon where he took a 7-5 victory. He was named the champion after conquering Nathan Su in their match with a 6-3 victory.

Su landed second place with his only loss to Jambor. He managed to prevail over Park, 6-2, and Joon, 6-4.

Park completed the Top 3 after winning one of his three matches against Joon, 6-0.

Cody Shimizu came out on top in the boys U16 singles division with a win-loss record of 3-0 during the round robin tournament. Shimizu coasted past his competitors, first besting Min Seong Kim 6-1, 6-4.



KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

Sam Ryu and Jimin Woo lived up to expectations after topping their division of the 2021 Tan Siu Lin Foundation Junior Tennis Tournament that concluded last Sunday at the American Memorial Park tennis court. They are shown here with runners-up Andy Kim and David Min Soo during last Sunday's awards ceremony.

Later he eased past Sam Culp, 6-2, 6-2, before racking in the title after defeating Andrew Chung 6-3, 7-5.

Kim finished second place after an intense battle against Sam Culp, losing his first set, 4-6, before stealing the win in the next two sets, 6-4, 13-11. Kim took a contrasting victory against Chung, hammering

him in the first set, 6-0, before narrowly beating him in the second, 7-6(5).

Results of the rest of the divisions will be released in the next issues of *Saipan Tribune*.

The 2021 TSL CNMI Junior Tennis Tournament is being conducted with help from the Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association.



**Booker, Suns
end Knicks'
9-game win
streak, 118-110**

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Saipan Tribune Sports

**GM: Packers
committed to
Rodgers for
'foreseeable
future'**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

20 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, 2021

Ryu, Woo live up to expectations



KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

Jimin Woo, left, and Sam Ryu in action during the 2021 Tan Siu Lin Foundation Junior Tennis Tournament last Sunday at the American Memorial Park tennis court.

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
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REPORTER

Sam Ryu and Jimin Woo lived up to expectations after topping their division in the 2021 Tan Siu Lin Foundation Junior Tennis Tournament that concluded last Sunday at the American Memorial Park tennis court.

The boys U18 doubles division top seeded team defeated opponents Andy Kim and David Min Soo in their matchup last Sunday with a 6-2, 7-6 victory.

The eventual champions gained access to the semifinals after getting a bye in the quarterfinals. The duo then ad-

vanced to the finals after sweeping their match against Daniel Kang and Jun Wang, 6-1, 6-3, who advanced to the semifinals after an easy 6-0, 6-0 victory over Jack Linden and Jesse Sablan.

The second-place duo made it to the semis after coasting past quarterfinals foes Dev Bachani and Cody Shimizu, 6-1, 6-0. Kim and Kwon later



managed to upset foes in the bottom half of the draw after taking a 7-6(2), 6-3 victory in the semis against the tournament's No.

2, Seongeon Heo and Sean Lee who advanced to the semis with an easy win against Serin Chung and Hye Jin Elliot, 6-3, 6-1.

See RYU on Page 19

Rommel Dizon wins beginners' category

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
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REPORTER



Rommel Dizon conquered the beginner's category

with an unofficial time of 30 minutes during the Saipan Unity Lions Club's 5th Annual Bike Race held last Sunday at Banzai Cliff.

The 42-year-old The Water Company staff is an avid cyclist but it was his first time winning a bike race last Sunday and it was definitely a shock.

When asked how he felt, Dizon said he was tired and figuratively felt like he would pass out from the difficulty of the course but the win was worth it.

Dizon said in terms of preparation, he made sure to consume at least two eggs every morning for two weeks in addition to biking a few hours every day.

In an interview with Unity Lion's Club president Alicia Barbo, about \$2,300 was raised from the biking event.

"Every registration was \$20. From the online registration, we had 104, but on the morning of the event, we had some last-minute registrants so basically, we had around 115," she said.

Barbo said the event was an exciting one and the organization is grateful and glad to see that there were so many participants supporting them because the organization is all about giving back to the community.

Other winners of the Saipan Unity Lions Club's 5th Annual Bike Race include:

■ Below 40: first Manolo Manalo, second Jomer Enriquez, and third Reno Aca-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Rommel Dizon conquered the beginner's category with an unofficial time of 30 minutes during the Saipan Unity Lions Club's 5th Annual Bike Race held last Sunday starting at Banzai Cliff.

demia.

■ 40-44: first Fred Remillo, second Josh Kenttonton, third Ernie Henzon

■ 45-49: first Denis Bautista, second Mario Jacob, third place Ricky Suba.

■ 50-54: first Mark Isip, second Abel Villafuerte, third Romeo Villa.

■ 55-59: first Noel Altamirano, second Roger Valencia, place Edgal Abalos.

■ 60 and above: first Pax Guevarra, second Manny Sitchon, third Florence Antonio.

■ Women's road bike: first Jay Anne Felipe, second Lily Muldoon, third Kimiko McKagan.

See ROMMEL on Page 19

Tsunami Saipan eyes meet in Taipei

By **MARK RABAGO**
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Swimming Center Tsunami Saipan is hoping to take part in its first off-island competition

since the 2019 Micronesia Championships in Palau when they leave for a meet in Taipei



this summer.

Coach Hiro Kimura plans to bring a 10-person team to Palau—five boys and five girls. Ten swimmers is the ideal number for the meet as Tsunami Saipan wants to join the relay event where at least four swimmers are needed with one alternate.

"Our target is to go to a Taipei swim competition this summer. As you know very well, Taiwan is one of the safest countries in the world now. I already have contacted a coach in Taipei. If our swimmers get vaccinated, they can

See TSUNAMI on Page 19



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Swimming Center Tsunami Saipan's top group are training six times a week and the beginners' group twice a week at a private swimming pool.